www.saipantribune.com 50¢ Volume XXI, Issue No. 35 FRIDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2011

OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Do you support the Senate's draft proposal to grant long-term alien workers status similar to that of Freely Associated States' citizens?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE



Gabby Speaks

Arizona Rep. Gabrielle Giffords speaks for the first time since being shot in the head.

NATION...Page 22



Workers' Strike

Thousands of workers go on strike across Egypt, adding a new dimen-

WORLD...Page 24



'Not Guilty'

Lindsay Lohan pleads not guilty to felony grand theft of a \$2,500

LIFE & STYLE...Page 27

Fitial to ask DHS to deport almost 2,000 illegal aliens

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said yesterday he has a long to-do list when he goes to Washington, D.C., including asking the migration and Customs Enforcement to start deporting almost 2,000 unemployed foreign workers who would have been

deported under local immigration laws. The governor will leave Saipan on

Department of Homeland Security's Im- Feb. 22, accompanied by first lady Josie

Fitial previously mentioned the almost 2,000 "illegal aliens" in his State of the Commonwealth Report to the Legislature on Dec. 30, 2010.

"The main issue is the illegal aliens who we will be harboring because ICE does not enforce immigration laws yet," Fitial said in an interview with reporters after signing a proclamation declar-See **DEPORT** on Page 4

SENATE'S UPDATED RECOMMENDATION:

Stricter eligibility for FAS status

» Only for those with 10-year stay, plus 5-year wait in CNMI

» Public hearings on Feb. 18, 24, 25

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

onresident workers who have been in the CNMI lawfully for at least 10 years as of May 2008 will have to wait five more years or until 2013 to become eligible to apply for a status similar to

those granted citizens of Freely Associated States.

See STATUS on Page 4

HEARING SCHEDULE

The Senate has scheduled the following public hearings on long-term nonresident workers' immigration status:

- Feb. 18 on Rota 6pm, at the Rota Roundhouse
- Feb. 24 on Saipan 6pm, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose **Center in Susupe**
- Feb. 25 on Tinian 6pm, in the Tinian Elementary School cafeteria

Source: Senate Committee on Federal Relations and Independent Agencies



BONING UP ON HISTORY

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, right, beams as he receives a free copy of the new history book from the author, Don Farrell, left, and Education Commission Rita A. Sablan, center, at a well-attended special launching at Aqua Resort Club in Achugao yesterday. The 367-page History of the Mariana Islands to Partition gives readers a better understanding of how indigenous people lived until being arbitrarily divided by foreign powers.

See story on Page 2

CUC wants to increase power base rate

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is proposing another adjustment in its power rates, effective April 1, 2011, according to the Commonwealth Public Utili-

ties Commission.



CUC executive director Abe Utu Malae told Saipan Tribune yesterday that the proposal is for the base rate is separate from the power rate adjustment ap-

proved in January, which was the emergency petition for the levelized energy adjustment clause.

Power rates are composed of three parts: the customer charge, the base rate, and the LEAC rate.

In December, CUC sought an adjustment in its base rate but this was not acted upon by the utilities commission.

See CUC on Page 4

Proposed exigency declaration for NMC junked. PAGE 14 **GAO** assessing impact of FAS migration to NMI. PAGE 17

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Local

Newest CNMI history book sparks students' interest

By CLARISSA V. DAVID

clarissa_david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Twelfth grader Joycelynn Atalig of Rota High School has already read history books about the CNMI but is still excited to read the latest history book that discusses the end of the Spanish administration and the political division of the Marianas.

"Compared to other history books, it has more pictures, which make it appealing to the eyes. It contains more updated information from different sources and I'm really excited to read it," said the Board of Education student representative.

Atalig was among the students who received a copy of *History of the Mariana Islands to Partition* during the well-attended book launching and signing yesterday morning at Aqua Resort Club.

Written by historian Don Farrell of Tinian, *History of the Mariana Islands to Partition* is a 367-page book intended for junior high school students. It was created based on Public School System benchmarks and standards and funded by a special grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Atalig, 17, said that having the book intended as a learning tool for young students will help them realize the importance of knowing one's history.

"It's best to start teaching the younger levels to be able to instill in them the importance of knowing your background and where you come from," she added.

Kimverlyn Butters, an eighth grader at Chacha Oceanview Junior High School, told *Saipan Tribune* that she's excited to ead the book

"I look forward to learning more about how ancient Chamorros lived through this book," Butters added.

Tinian High School senior Chelsie Manglona noted the significance of one's history. "It's important for us to know where we came from, our heritage and history, in order to move forward," said the 17-year old Manglona.

'Historical event'

PSS Commissioner Rita A. Sablan said that publishing

the History of the Mariana Islands to Partition is a historical event that will give a greater understanding of the beginnings of the CNMI, from its geological formation to the Spanish colonization until its political separation from Guam, accounts which were only passed on orally.

"The CNMI Public School System has created a renaissance in education wherein history, language diversity, culture, and heritage are more evident. Lessons learned in history remains a powerful knowledge," Sablan said.

Farrell told *Saipan Tribune* that the ceremony was a "tremendous day" as he saw old friends and thanked those who contributed to the success of the book.

He expressed hope that teachers and students would use the book to help improve reading standards, scores, benchmarks,

and annual assessments of PSS.

"I also hope that I've been able to construct the book in such a way that it's going to interest you, the adult readers," added Farrell.

According to him, the book contains the largest collection of copies of original art, illustrations, and paintings of the Northern Marianas and Guam ever published in a single volume.

"I think you'll be able to easily visualize our history as you work through your way through this text," he said.

Farrell noted, though, the "totally inadequate information available" about the arrival of Carolinians on island.

"We seriously need people from the Carolinian community to become involved in writing and recording their history of the Mariana Islands so whoever does the next volume will have a larger base of information to

See NEWEST on Next Page

Saipan Stevedore suing ex-DPS deputy chief for unpaid \$9K debt

Saipan Stevedore Company Inc. has sued former Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner Ambrosio T. Ogumoro for allegedly failing to pay a \$9,000 debt.

Saipan Stevedore, through counsel Michael A. White, asked the Superior Court to order Ogumoro to pay the principal sum of \$9,000, together with 9 percent interest per annum. The company also demanded payment of court costs and interest

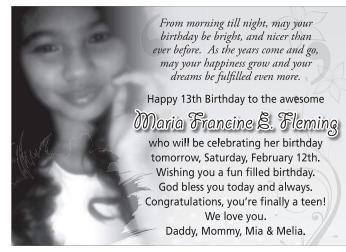
Saipan Tribune tried but complaint. (Ferdie de la Torre)

failed to contact Ogumoro for comments.

White stated in the complaint that Ogumoro is indebted to Saipan Stevedore for services rendered from Oct. 23, 2009. The complaint did not specify the services the shipping company rendered for Ogumoro.

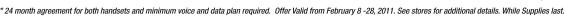
"Notwithstanding demand, defendant has failed, refused, and neglected, and still fails, refuses, and neglects to pay the said sum or any part thereof to plaintiff," said White in the complaint. (Ferdie de la Torre)







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Admin plans to lease out Mariana House for now

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The Fitial administration's plan for the CNMI government's Mariana House in Washington, D.C. is to have it leased out rather than sell it, at least for now, Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday.

But before the administration could lease out the property, it will have to repair the building and clear out a rat infestation, as complained by a neighbor.

Inos, who oversees government finances, said the administration will hire a property management firm, "which is supposed to manage property and lease it out or rent it out."

"So far, the decision has been to just lease it out, but we might want to review, depending on the market condition. We don't want to go ahead and make a decision to sell it when the market is really down," Inos told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview

work from in constructing that

very, very important section,"

NEWEST

From Page 2

he added.

vesterday morning

Mariana House has been sitting idle for two years, or since January 2009 when the resident representative's office was abolished to give way to the CNMI's first nonvoting delegate to the U.S. Congress as a result of Public Law 110-229.

Herman Guerrero, who was a special assistant to the first and second CNMI resident representative in Washington, D.C., clarified yesterday that the CNMI government spent \$250,000 to buy the Mariana House.

Guerrero, who is now a CNMI Board of Education member, said \$200,000 was appropriated by the CNMI Legislature, while \$50,000 was from the governor's office's contingency fund. Earlier figures from other officials were \$200,000 and \$300,000.

Washington, D.C. tax records list the property as "E6-Foreign," and the pro-

More than half of the 500

copies available for sale at yes-

terday's event were sold at a

special rate of \$20 each. Sablan

said the same rate will apply

once they launch the book in

Guam on Feb. 16.

posed new value for 2010 is \$835,430, including the value of the land and improvements. But the CNMI said it will hire its own property appraiser.

Incumbent lawmakers and others, including former resident representative and former governor Juan N. Babauta, called on the government to invest in the Mariana House property. He said it could be subjected to property tax if it loses its tax-exempt status because it has been sitting idle for two years.

The Mariana House is located at 2121 R Street NW Washington, D.C.

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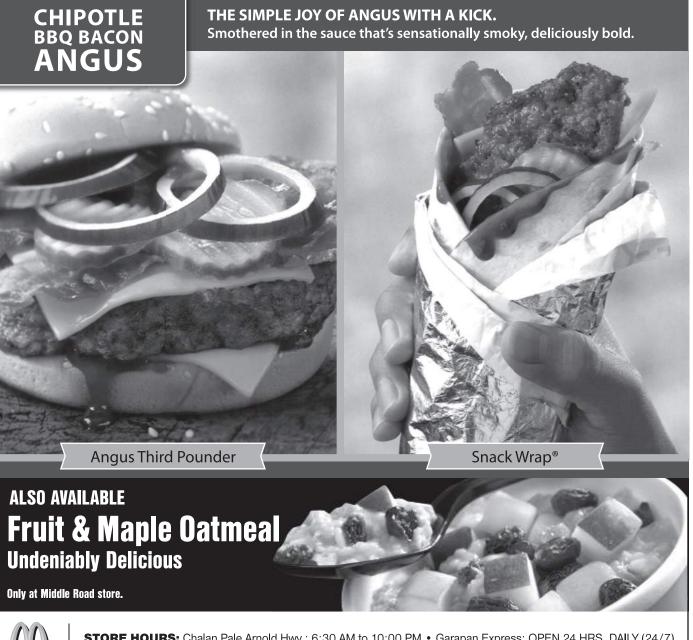


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Bill to expunge criminal records worries some community members

A bill seeking to expunge criminal records after at least five years for felony convictions and after three years for misdemeanor worries some community members who said records need not be completely destroyed but only sealed.

records of convicted criminals who later commit another offense, for example, will become a problem to law enforcers, the courts, the community, and most especially to victims.

House Bill 17-52, House Draft 2,

Stanley Torres, passed the House last vear.

"The least the Legislature could do is conduct a public hearing on this bill," said another community member, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

bill in this afternoon's session. It is listed on the bill calendar.

Others in the community said the bill could allow those convicted of corruption from returning to government.

The proposed expungement does not apply to persons who are required by Public Law 11-5 to register as sex offenders, and those who were convicted of any heinous crimes such as murder, rape, aggravated sexual assault, among other things.

Also not covered are persons who have more than one conviction for a violent crime or offense that is punishable by five years or more.

Torres, in introducing the bill, said his main concern is that many individuals are unfairly burdened and unduly prejudiced for life by the stigma and the record associated with a criminal offense committed in their past.

He said these citizens lose employment opportunities and suffer other harsh consequences, even though they have already been punished.

Under the bill, a person convicted of a crime in the CNMI may petition the court to expunge all records concerning said conviction in cases involving a conviction for a felony, at least five years after the CNMI Superior Court, the Office of Adult Probation Supervision, and the Board of Parole have all terminated, lost or relinquished supervision or jurisdiction of the person. (Haidee V. Eugenio)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

World Day of the Sick on Sunday

The Diocese of Chalan Kanoa will be commemorating World Day of the Sick with a special Eucharistic celebration on Sunday, Feb. 13, 2011, at 3pm at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral. The International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be presented at the Cathedral, and the Anointing of the Sick will be administered at the Mass.

Cancer survivors are invited to attend the Mass, and to participate in the entrance procession (four individuals) to carry the statue of the Blessed Mother; to perform the First Reading and Responsorial Psalm (one individual); to perform the Second Reading (one individual), and to carry the Offertory Gifts (three individuals).

To sign up to participate in this special Mass, or for more information, contact Fr. Ryan Jimenez, Apostolic Administrator, at ryansaipan@pticom. com, or Jocelyn Deleon Guerrero at jocelyn@cnmicatholic.org. They may also be reached at 234-3000. (PR)

Tinian mayor on Marianas Agupa tomorrow

This Saturday, Feb. 12, 2011, Mari-

anas Agupa will feature Tinian Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz from 10am to 10:30am on Magic 100.3 FM. Topic of discussion will be on the Tinian's municipality accomplishments and challenges during these trying times.

The Chamorro Talk Show Program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona. It will feature reports by former mayor Joseph S. Inos, Thomas D. Mendiola from Rota, and former Tinian senator David M. Cing. Simultaneous Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available. (PR)

CUC

From Page 1

"This is the base rate that was introduced in December but never got announced formally," Malae said.

Based on the CPUC announcement, CUC wants the current electric base charge of \$5.60 a month for residential customers to increase to \$7.28, and the monthly base charge for commercial and government to go up from \$7.67 to \$9.97.

"CUC notes that the average residential ratepayer uses approximately 500 kilowatt-hours per month. The proposed rate adjustment will increase his or her monthly electric bill by approximately \$4.18. Higher volume residential and commercial users will experience greater increases," states the commission's announcement.

As calculated by CUC, the base rate increase would add to the monthly bills of customers as follows: \$4.18 for residential customers using 500 kWh; \$28.30 for commercial customers using 1000 kWh per month; and \$29.30 for government using 1000 kWh per month.

CPUC set a public hearing on March 18 and will consider making a decision on the proposal at its scheduled special meeting on March 25.

Saipan Tribune learned that CUC first filed a petition with the commission on Nov. 10, 2010, to raise its electric base rate. Supplemental petitions on the same matter were filed on Dec. 8, 2010 and on Feb. 9, 2011.

The commission states that CUC is citing reasons beyond its control for the rate increase.

"CUC is currently operating at a substantial deficit, cannot borrow money, and relies entirely on the revenues from its customers and federal grants. The rate increases are critical in order for the company to maintain financial health," the commission stated.

Additionally, it said CUC is required by statute and the stipulated order to achieve a "full cost" recovery, which means CUC's revenues must fully cover the cost of providing service to its ratepayers. This includes cost of maintenance, repair, replacement of pipes, and other equipment in coming years.

STATUS

From Page 1

This is the key point in the CNMI Senate's revised draft recommendation on the status of long-term guest workers in the Commonwealth.

Once public hearings are done, the Senate will again have to revise the draft recommendation before presenting it to the U.S. Congress in March.

The earlier draft had recommended FAS status for those who have been in the CNMI for at least 10 years as of the signing of U.S. Public Law 110-229, which was in May 2008.

Those with FAS status can freely travel, work, live and study in the U.S. and its territories. The status currently applies to Palau, Marshall Islands, and Federated States of Micronesia citizens.

Senators held almost three hours of closed-door meeting with at least three House members yesterday to work on the revised draft recommendation that will be presented at the last round of public hearings on Rota, Saipan, and Tinian between Feb. 18 and Feb. 25.

Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), chairman of the Senate Committee on Federal Relations and Independent Agencies, said the committee removed from the earlier draft a provision allowing nonresident workers who—five years after being granted FAS-like status—to apply for and receive permanent resident status, also referred to as "green card."

Regardless of the Senate's draft recommendation, nothing prevents any foreign individual to apply for "green card" if they meet the eligibility requirements.

The first paragraph of the Senate's revised draft recommendation is now written as follows:

"All nonresident workers residing in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for ten years on the date U.S. Public Law 110-229 became law, shall receive the same immigration status held by citizens of the freely associated states (FAS), but only after remaining in the Commonwealth for five years after the date U.S. Public Law 110-229 became law.

The bold letters were newly added to the earlier draft. The second sentence in the earlier draft was removed, referring to permanent resident status eligibility.

Hofschneider, in an interview with

Saipan Tribune, said the committee also decided to scrap from the earlier draft the whole second paragraph in the recommendation granting FAS status to nonresidents who have been in the CNMI for at least five years as of May 2008, but have to wait for 10 more years to become eligible to apply for permanent resident status.

This paragraph remains in the revised draft: "No person who has violated any Commonwealth or Federal Law, other than a traffic law, shall be eligible to receive such immigration status.'

Senators agreed to let only Hofschneider talk to the media about the revised draft recommendation yesterday.

Besides Hofschneider, the other Senate committee members at the closed-door meeting yesterday were Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), Senate floor leader Pete Reyes, Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), and Sen. Henry San Nicolas (Cov-Tinian), who left early.

From the House side, those in attendance were Federal and Foreign Relations Committee chair Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), minority leader Diego Benavente (R-Saipan), and Rep. Joe Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan).

Federal Labor Ombudsman Pam Brown was also at the closed-door meeting.

The Senate is expected to release an "official draft of its recommendation," for the purposes of the public hearings. This will still be revised after the public hearings.

The revised draft recommendation may be posted today on the Legislature's official website, www.cnmileg. gov.mp.

Public hearings

The senators finalized the public hearing dates, starting on Rota on Feb. 18. Friday, at the Rota Roundhouse at 6pm.

The Saipan hearing will be held on Feb. 24, Thursday, 6pm, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

The Tinian hearing will be on Feb. 25, Friday, in the cafeteria of Tinian Elementary School at 6pm.

Hofschneider called on members of the community, whether nonresidents or residents, to participate in the last round of public hearings on the recommended improved immigration status of long-term nonresident workers.

"I encourage everybody, please come to the public hearings. If you have any concern with the recommendations we're trying to adopt, we certainly appreciate that you come out and help us out. Get your sentiment out on what is best to adopt. I also want to invite House members," he said.

Joint position paper

Hofschneider said the CNMI Senate is looking at the possibility of having the planned recommendation be a joint position paper of the Senate and House; this was why House members were invited to the meeting yesterday.

"We hope we can get the House to support this as well," he added.

Unlike the Senate, the House didn't conduct public hearings on the recommendations of the U.S. Department of the Interior to Congress last year to grant improved immigration status to foreign workers who have been legally residing in the CNMI for at least five years.

"Although this immigration [issue] is really up to the U.S. Congress to decide, I believe as a unit here, as community leaders, we also need to come up with a position," Hofschneider said.

He added that the Senate hopes that ranking members, and all the members of Congress with oversight on CNMI and immigration matters will read the CNMI Senate's recommendation.

"It's better we come up with a position by way of what we're doing than not having a position at all," he added.

Benavente and other lawmakers said it is better to have an official position statement that will help guide the U.S. Congress if and when it decides to act on the Interior recommendation.

Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement-NMI, said the Senate's revised draft still didn't take into consideration the status of foreign workers whose umbrella permits will expire in November 2011, if and when the federal government fails to issue transitional worker regulations before that.

Syed also said that a lot of foreign workers have been here for 10 years as of May 2008, but they may run out of status before 2013, when they could become eligible to apply for FAS status as the Senate recommends.

"That's why we're asking the U.S. Congress to issue something before November 2011. And we continue to request for U.S. citizenship or green card," he said.

Dekada Movement, however, earlier said they will agree to an FAS status for long-term workers.

DEPORT

ing Feb. 13 World Marriage Day at the Mount Carmel Curia yesterday after-

The CNMI government has already given the names of these unemployed foreign workers to DHS officials.

Fitial had said it is the lack of effective DHS enforcement, including failing to deport illegal aliens unless they have committed a crime, which prompted the enactment of the Arizona law that is now being challenged by the federal government.

The governor said he will also be meeting with the chiefs of DHS' U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services on Feb. 23, and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection on Feb. 24.

Fitial said U.S. Labor Ombudsman Pam Brown is "not correct" when she said local labor no longer has authority over foreign workers.

He reiterated that he would rather extend beyond November 2011 the umbrella permits of foreign workers whose skills cannot be provided by the local labor pool, rather than having these long-term foreign workers being granted improved immigration status.

The governor also said he will follow up with USCIS on a proposal to establish an EB-5 regional center in the CNMI.

An EB-5 is an employment based

visa preference category, available to immigrants seeking to enter the United States in order to invest in a new commercial enterprise that will benefit the U.S. economy and create at least 10 full-time jobs. Minimum investment is \$1 million but in rural areas, the minimum investment is \$500,000.

He said former Commerce secretary Michael Ada's private firm, Integrated Professional Solutions, had already submitted application to establish an EB-5 regional center in the CNMI.

Fitial will be leaving on Feb. 22 to meet with federal officials and attend the National Governors Association's Winter Meeting in Washington, D.C. from Feb. 26 to 28.

At the NGA meeting, Fitial said all the governors will again have a chance to meet with President Barack Obama at a dinner.

The governor recalled that at the 2009 NGA Winter meeting, he got to meet with and listen to the keynote address of T. Boone Pickens, founder and chairman of BP Capital Management. Pickens discussed his plan for reducing America's dependence on foreign oil through new infrastructure investments. Fitial has long been pushing for the development of alternative energy sources in the CNMI.

After his official trip to Washington, D.C., Fitial will be on medical leave for another surgery at the UCLA Medical Center, where he had two spinal surgeries in 2006.

UMDA's motion to dismiss ex-CFO's lawsuit OK'd Man who fatally punched

The federal court granted yesterday a motion by United Micronesia Development Association Inc. to dismiss the lawsuit filed against it by a former official who sued UMDA for his termination.

Hiroyuki Saito, a former chief financial officer of UMDA, was allowed, however, to amend his complaint within 30 days.

After listening to arguments, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Marilyn L. Huff denied Saito's motion for summary judgment and said she will issue a written decision.

UMDA counsel Robert T. Torres told Saipan Tribune that. in dismissing the lawsuit, the judge found that the absence of writing signed by the parties about any contract renewal failed to state a claim.

Torres said UMDA will continue to vigorously defend the case. "UMDA appreciates the court's observations when UMDA tested the basis of Saito's complaint and found the motion by UMDA well-taken and denied the motion by Saito," he said.

Attorney Mark Scoggins argued on behalf of Saito.

Saito, a Japanese national, had alleged that his termination in December 2009 was without cause.

Saito asked the court to order UMDA to arbitrate their dispute in accordance with the terms of their contract. He demanded damages, attorney's fees, and court costs

Scoggins alleged that UMDA breached its contract with Saito by terminating him without giv-

ing him his required compensation and benefits.

In UMDA's motion to dismiss, Torres asserted that Saito's employment contract expired on March 29, 2009, without any written renewal and without any approval by the UMDA board as required.

UMDA bought Hotel Nikko Saipan, now called Palms Resort Saipan, from JAL Group in 2007. It closed down Palms last year for renovation. (Ferdie de

another gets five years

Shane Jonathan Hocog, a 22year-old man who pleaded guilty in a fatal assault on another man near Kagman High School, was sentenced to five years in prison.

Hocog will not be eligible for parole but Superior Court Associate Judge Perry B. Inos gave him credit for time served.

Hocog was also directed to pay \$14,075.37 in restitution, a \$100 fine, and court assessment fee, as well as 200 hours of community service that he will render in two years while in prison.

At Wednesday's hearing, Hocog expressed remorse for his action that caused the death of Larry Garcia Gonzales and apologized to his victim's family.

Hocog's mother testified that her son is a good man and is not violent.

Hocog had pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter as part of a plea bargain. He was represented by assistant public defender Richard Miller. Assistant attorney general Peter Prestley represented the gov-

Police said that Hocog, in a fit of jealousy, punched Gonzales in the face on March 1, 2010. The victim fell and hit his head on the pavement. He became comatose hours later. Gonzales was pronounced dead on March 4, 2010, due to severe head injury. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Suspect in 'ice' case wants to testify using Chamorro

A suspect in an "ice" trafficking case wants to testify in Chamorro at his jury trial.

Pedro Rediall Demapan, through court-appointed counsel Joseph James Norita Camacho, told the Superior Court that he may choose to testify in his own defense and exercise his absolute right to testify in Chamorro.

Camacho said the CNMI Supreme Court had reaffirmed in a criminal case in 2003 the right of a defendant to testify in Chamorro.

Camacho said the high court held that there is "an absolute right to speak Chamorro in court based on

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Foot Massage

the constitutional designation of the three official languages."

The lawyer said he and Demapan are native Chamorro speakers.

He said the parties are given notice in order to make arrangements for the services of a Chamorro translator.

The jury trial of Camacho and co-defendant Sylvan Magofna Cabrera is on March 7, 2011, before associate judge David A.

The Office of the Attorney General had charged Demapan and Cabrera with conspiracy, possession, and trafficking of controlled substance. At the

> **OPERATION:** 11:00am to 11:00pm

> > (Massage)

(Manicure/Foot Spa)

1:00pm to 3:00am

dismissed the possession charge against Demapan.

Police said members of the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force used a cooperat-

preliminary hearing, the court ing source to buy \$100 worth of "ice" from Demapan on July 10, 2010. It was Cabrera who allegedly showed up at the meeting place in Chalan Kanoa. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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Company accuses PSS of favoring contractor for networking project

By MONETH G. DEPOSA moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

One of four companies that submitted a bid for the Public School System's network design and installation project has filed a protest against PSS procurement officer Robert Florian for allegedly favoring a competing bidder in awarding the contract.

Roy Ortizo, general manager and owner of Marianas Wireless, described the contract award as "flawed" because the PSS procurement officer violated procurement rules and regulations when it awarded the contract to Pacific Star Communications.

He cited five claims against Florian, who said that Ortizo's complaint is now being reviewed.

Ortizo claimed that Florian did not use the published criteria in evaluating the bids for the project. He said the procurement officer also failed to determine the proposals susceptible to award and did not provide an opportunity for other companies to offer their best and final offers.

"He failed to ascertain whether the contract sum proposed by the proposals will result in the placement of a system that would meet the specifications provided in the request for proposal," said Ortizo.

He said Florian awarded

the project based on favoritism and used delaying tactics in order to give Pacific Star Communications enough time to comply with PSS procurement regulations.

Florian confirmed yesterday that he had received Ortizo's letter. "It's too early to comment on the protest because it was shared with other people who bid on the contract. We're waiting for their comments and once we have them, we will analyze everything," he said.

Florian said the losing bidder has asked for a meeting and will be given an opportunity to review the entire procurement files next week.

"We're inviting them to come here and review the entire procurement files. It's very unusual for a protest to come from someone who has not availed of himself the opportunity to review the files," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Florian described the allegations of favoritism as "interesting points" but emphasized the difference between a request for proposal and an invitation for bids.

"When we do RFP, we negotiate. There's a lot of leeway and discretion in doing so and people who don't get selected for the project get hurt. In RFP, we don't rank proposers on the amount of money they offer to do the job. The primary purpose

of RFP is to have the discretion to select the best proposal... and that proposal is very often not always the cheapest but the [one] that we think can do the best job done," he explained.

Saipan Tribune learned that Marianas Wireless had the lowest price offer of \$666,045 among four bidders—Pacific Star Communication, Marianas Wireless, Megabyte, and White Coconut. Pacific Star won the contract.

When asked if PSS is confident in the decision it made when it selected Pacific Star, Florian said: "Yes and no. We need to be open to being made aware if we made a mistake or made a wrong selection if that would be established."

Florian expects to receive all comments by next week.

Marianas Wireless claims that Pacific Star Communication—an off-island company—was selected based on the condition that the company will pay the same taxes and fees as a local proposer. Ortizo said that PSS gave the off-island company leeway of 197 days to be able to obtain a CNMI business license and Tax ID.

"He also failed to ascertain whether the contract overall costs of award will result in the network design and installation of routing as well as switching equipment for PSS," added Ortizo.





SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2011 **7**



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Hotel interns complete English language course

The Northern Marianas College's Division of Community Programs and Services' Community Development Institute recently recognized 10 individuals who completed 40 hours of training in the English language.

The 10 participants—all international staff members on internships with the Saipan World Resort—learned the fundamen-

tals of the English language, including the grammatical concepts necessary for interactive skills development. Throughout the course, they practiced these concepts through conversation and written exercises.

The 10 interns completed the course in order to be more well-rounded hospitality employees. Such training would ensure that

these interns are able to effectively serve English-speaking hotel customers.

The Community Development Institute provides a range of specialized academic courses, non-traditional courses, customized training such as "customer service" and "computer literacy" courses, outreach and extended program

services, personal enrichment, and community-based learning that are accessible and affordable to the public.

For more information about these courses, contact CDI at 234-5498 ext. 1010, email CDI program manager Les Ogumoro-Uludong at logumoro@nmcnet.edu, or visit www.nmcnet.edu. (NMC)



NMC

International staff members of the Saipan World Resort pose for a group photo with the hotel's management team and CDI program manager Les Ogumoro-Uludong, leftmost.





Feb. 11, 1999

Hofschneider defends NMC probe

The ongoing oversight hearing of the House Committee on Health, Education and Welfare opens debate on whether the Northern Marianas College is on trial with its president, Agnes McPhetres, taking the heat. "It will be irresponsible for me as the head of the committee to use this for publicity. I don't need that and this is a serious investigation," said Rep. Heinz Hofschneider, the chairman of the committee. To prove his point, he said he would henceforth decline interviews about the oversight hearing. He said this would keep the integrity of the entire process.

Farmers need technical help

Farmers in the CNMI need technical assistance to be able to produce quality fruits and vegetables that can be sold to hotels on the island, according to Patrick M. Calvo, chairman of Saipan & Northern Islands Soil & Water Conservation District. Currently, lack the needed scientific tools to help determine the nutrients lacking in the soil and the right type of fertilizer to use as local producers are only relying on their limited farming knowledge. Calvo said the technical assistance will help local producers improve their production of watermelons, cantaloupes and honeydew melon. Once the farmers get the right technical assistance, they will be able to maximize production and sell better quality products.

Feb. 11, 2000

PSS asks \$40 million for FY 2001

Citing the need to fill up vacancies needed to efficiently run learning institutions in the CNMI, the Public School System is asking \$40 million in budget allocation for the fiscal year 2001. Members of the Seventh CNMI State Board of Education approved the budget proposal in its second meeting yesterday. The proposal will be submitted to the Office of the Governor. PSS was originally planning to ask for \$44 million for the next fiscal year but decided not to seek funding for 114 full-time employees positions that may have cost the System close to \$4 million, according to Education Commissioner Dr. Rita H. Inos.

US asked to increase annual aid to \$100M

Retired Supreme Court Justice Ramon G. Villagomez yesterday asked Edward B. Cohen, President Clinton's special representative to the 902 Consultations, to recommend an increase in the annual financial assistance to the Northern Marianas from \$11 million to \$100 million as well as the removal of the matching requirement. Saying the United States has received a lot of benefits when the CNMI signed the Covenant, Mr. Villagomez said Mr. Cohen should recommend to the President to stop the bombing exercises on Farallon de Mendinilla, return all leased lands and rescind the U.S. power of eminent domain. In his letter to Mr. Cohen, the former justice emphasized that the people of the CNMI gave up their sovereignty to the United States—complete control over a vast area of lands, sea and air which strengthens the U.S. strategic positioning in Asia and the Pacific.

Feb. 11, 2002

CPA employees seek Salas' reappointment

The Commonwealth Ports Authority Employees Association is urging the administration of Gov. Juan N. Babauta to retain Carlos H. Salas as executive director of the agency. "To see CPA handed over to a newcomer is to see CPA taking a few steps back. We cannot afford those few steps back and we do not wish to see this happen," stated a CPAEA letter submitted to Babauta and Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente Friday. Signed by CPAEA chairman Stanley C. Torres, vice-chairperson Angela M. Reyes, treasurer Pauline P. Camacho, and secretary Teresita B. Camacho, the organization said they have confidence in Salas' management of the ports authority.

CUC bats for better power services

Reeling from a budget deficit, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. needs to cough up millions of dollars more for the major overhaul works being done at its main power plant on Saipan. The overhaul of just one engine would cost up to \$2 million or higher, according to CUC corporate communications special advisor Pamela Mathis. Saipan's biggest power plant needs at least three of its engines overhauled. Two of those engines each supply 13 megawatts of electricity, while the third engine has 7.5 megawatts of power. Last Thursday, the CUC said it tightened security at the power plant, while the first 13-megawatt engine was undergoing maintenance work.

Camacho, Leon Guerrero now out of SHEFA board

REPORTER

Two members of the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance are now officially out of the board after not being reappointed to their positions.

The terms of Maggie Camacho and Jose Leon Guerrero recently expired and new appointees were named to their position.

Camacho's appointment, along with board member Josephine T. Sablan, was earlier questioned by the former board leadership, which labeled their appointments

invalid and not confirmed.

Unlike Camacho, though, Sablan was reappointed to her position on Feb. 6.

Acting Saipan Mayor Ralph N. Yumul has appointed Ursula Aldan and Vina Claire Saures as new members of the SHEFA board.

In a letter to the Saipan Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, Yumul said the mayor's office has full confidence in the two's capability to help SHEFA, describing them as assets to the board.

Members of the SHEFA board

'Variety owner, Sen. Crisostimo fail to pay \$901.4K in local taxes'

Younis Art Studio Inc., the owner of Marianas Variety, and Sen. Luis P. Crisostimo (Dem-Saipan) failed to pay a total of \$901,456.84 in withholding tax and Business Gross Revenue Tax, according to

Finance, through collection and remittance branch manager Richard F. Santos, filed yesterday in the U.S. District Court for the NMI separate notices of tax lien against Younis Art Studio Inc. and couple Luis and Maria Crisostimo.

Younis Art Studio counsel Robert T. Torres said the company is aware of the notice of tax lien, which he described as a "predictable and often-taken" move by local or federal revenue offices to assert its priority over other competing creditors.

Torres pointed out that Younis Art Studio already has an agreement with Finance, which it continues to honor and has every intention of fulfilling.

"As a closely held local company in media and publishing since 1972, Younis Art Studio intends to meet this challenge and remove this lien upon fulfillment of tax obligations," Torres said.

Crisostimo, for his part, said

the tax due is for a company he

"I did resign from the company. Anyway, we will take care of it. Everybody has liability," Crisostimo said, adding that they are now negotiating with the government to resolve the matter.

According to court documents, Younis Art Studio's total unpaid tax amounts to \$328.412.63. while the Crisosti-

Younis Art Studio allegedly failed to pay its BGRT from 2005 to 2010 and its withhold-

The Crisostimo couple allegedly failed to pay their BGRT from 1999 to 2004, and from 2006 to 2008. They also allegedly failed to pay withholding tax in December 1998 and De-

Santos said that demand for payment of these liabilities has been

are appointed by the Saipan mayor and require the confirmation

and consent of the delegation.

The new appointees were asked

to submit original copies of their

police clearance, personal finan-

cial statement, and receipt or oth-

er proof that they have tested for

controlled substances as required

Besides Sablan, Yumul also reappointed Jose Mafnas to the SHEFA board on Feb. 6. Mafnas, who was recently elected board chair, was appointed to serve the remaining term of an expired board member last year.

If all new appointees are con-

be composed of Mafnas, Sablan, John K. Tenorio, Saures, and Aldan

SHEFA is a scholarship program that provides Saipan and Northern Islands students up to \$5,000 financial assistance from poker fees. Its mission is to pro-

vide supplementary financial assistance to qualified students pursuing college education on Saipan or abroad. Recipients are expected to return to the island with the necessary and sufficient knowledge and skill to work in the government or private sector.

used to own. the Department of Finance.

mo couple owe \$573,044.21.

ing tax from 2006 to 2009.

cember 1999.

made, but they remain unpaid.

"Therefore, there is a lien in favor of the CNMI on all property and rights to property belonging to the taxpayer for the amount of these taxes and any additional penalties, interest, and costs that may accrue," Santos said. (Ferdie de la Torre)



CRIME OF THE WEEK

Tips sought in string of burglaries, thefts

community's assistance for information on a string of burglary and theft incidents that occurred in local beaches.

On Monday, Jan. 31, at about 2pm, a bag was stolen from Ladder Beach while a visiting couple was exploring the beach. Inside the bag was \$700 cash an iPod touch and a Nokia cell phone. The victims saw a blue Toyota Tundra pickup truck roaming the area and the occupants were described as two local males.

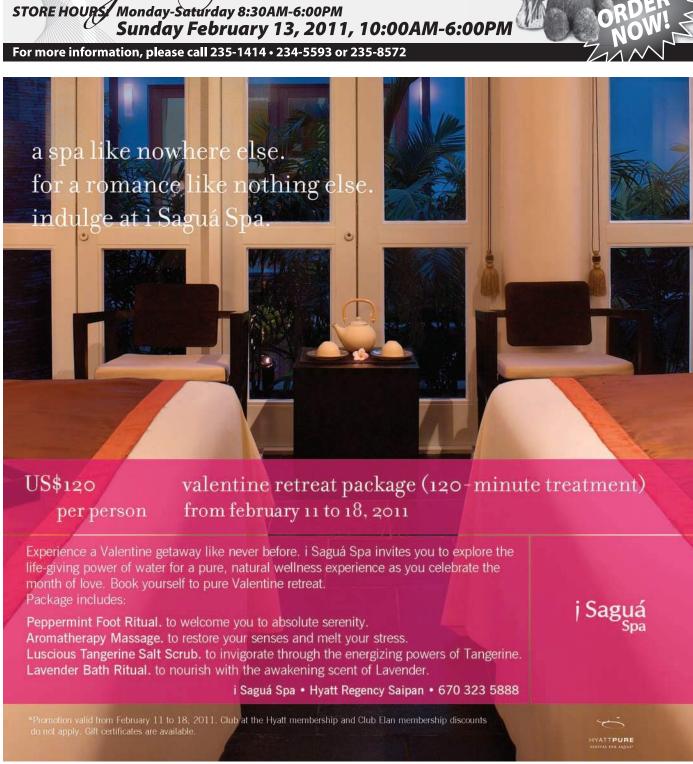
On Friday, Feb. 4, at about 12pm, a male tourist was sunbathing at Paupau Beach when he fell asleep. He awoke to find his black bag containing \$150 cash and credit card stolen.

On Sunday, Feb. 5, at about 2:30pm, another visiting couple from the U.S. mainland parked their rental car, (a white 2010 Mazda 3 sedan) at Tank Beach. The couple went for a stroll on the beach. An hour later, they returned to dis-

Crime Stoppers is seeking the cover the passenger window smashed and their personal items stolen. The items include a Jansport backpack, a pair of black binoculars, a Samsung cell phone, a Pearl wristwatch, prescribed sunglasses, and over \$200 cash.

On the same day, Sunday, Feb. 5, another car was broken into at the Forbidden Island parking area in Kagman. The victim, a local Japanese male, had parked his white Toyota T100 and had escorted tourists down to Forbidden Island. He returned a few hours later to discover his car unable to start because the car battery had been stolen.

DPS and Crime Stoppers are seeking help from the public. Contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use its website at www.nmicrimestoppers.com. stoppers pays up to \$1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. (Crime Stoppers)



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Opinion



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> > MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

US must reverse image as apologist for Arab dictators

hile much attention focuses on how gracefully to dislodge President Hosni Mubarak from his 30-year reign, the Obama administration should be asking how U.S. policies helped him remain in office that long to begin with. The United States has grown far too comfortable with an Arab world dominated by unmovable, abusive rulers while assuming that the Arab people couldn't be trusted with democracy.

U.S. support for pro-Western oppressors may have helped curb Islamist influences, assure a steady flow of oil and keep Israel secure. But disastrous consequences now are resulting from America's decision to compromise its fundamental democratic principles for the expediency of the iron fist.

Egyptians want democracy badly enough to die for it. Instead of an unqualified voice of support from Washington, what the protesters perceive are U.S. stalling tactics aimed at buying Mubarak a few more months in power.

Unless the United States takes a more vocal lead in helping the protesters achieve their goal, the next generation of Arab leaders cannot be blamed for turning their backs on America altogether. Washington should focus less on shoring up its credibility with dictators than building credibility with those who want to end the Arab world's long era of oppressive rule.

Al-Qaida and other Islamist groups have long opposed the spread of democracy in the Middle East. So whose interests ultimately are served by a U.S. policy favoring monarchs and dictators over democratic leadership?

Arabs must be given the opportunity to choose for themselves, as frightening as this might sound to Westerners. Yes, there is a danger that they could use the vote to elect Islamists. But Egyptian protesters say that, having fought this hard to uproot Mubarak, they have no intention of replacing him with an Iran-style government of mullahs.

Some examples, such as the Palestinians' choice of the Islamist Hamas over the secular but corrupt leadership of Fatah, fuel the impression that Arabs aren't ready for full democracy. But in Iraq, voters experimented with Islamist leadership, and when those representatives failed to deliver on their populist promises of jobs and improved services, voters subsequently ousted them. That's exactly how the system should work.

There is no one-size-fits-all approach to facilitating a democratic transition. What works for Egypt might not work for Saudi Arabia or Jordan. But it's clear that the Arab street is fed up with oppression, corruption and human rights abuses that occur while Washington looks the other way. Their autocratic rulers are pushing the region toward increasing chaos, not stability. And Tuesday's mass gathering in Cairo should dispel any notion that the protests are going to die down soon.

This is a messy and unpredictable process. But if America truly stands for democracy, Washington must abandon the double standard that prevents Arabs from practicing it.

(c) 2011, The Dallas Morning News



The power of story

he illuminati gathered at Don Farrell's book launching of *The History of the Mariana Islands to the Partition*Thursday is a story by itself worth commenting from the attendance of island luminaries (covered by regular reporters from island publications) and the interest the book and the subject generated. We will stick with the subject and the power of story.

We begin with a long quote from our self-labeled geologian (ecotheologian, by our term) Thomas Berry: Both education and religion need to ground themselves within the story of the universe as we now understand this story through empirical knowledge. Within this functional cosmology, we can overcome our alienation and begin the renewal of life on a sustainable basis. This story is a numinous revelatory story that could evoke the vision and the energy required to bring not only ourselves but the entire planet into a new order of magnificence.

Farrell's historical coverage is geography-specific to the Mariana Islands. We commented earlier on his taking us to the islands' geologic formation and human biologic evolution before launching into archaeological reconstruction of pre-contact Chamorro culture and the recollections from extant documents culminating in the partition of Guam and the Northern Marianas as a consequence of the Spanish-American war. Empirical knowledge is the currency of story telling these days, and Farrell does his craft well.

That sweep of planetary journey provides a context on our relationship to the land and the sea that our modern utilitarian era tends to forget when dealing with resources—natural, human and technological. "Respect" as an operating category for the *Taotao Tano/Tasi* and *Refaluwasch* begins at the geologic and biologic level before it is historic and social.

That last was not lost to this voyeur of island history as we witnessed for the second time Farrell quiver with emotion at the podium for "respect" to persons who have figured in his professional and personal journey, not the least of whom is Tinian's Carmen de la Cruz who shares his bed and board. Carmen and the numerous personages whose names and work will certainly be in Part II of Farrell's historical account were present to be part of the day's festivities at the Aqua Resort, and the sight of the standing-room-only lobby of the resort (with names like Marjorie, Barry, Joyner, Ivan, et al) was too overwhelming for our author to carry in his heart full of gratitude.

This sense of respect can weigh down the practices of democratically defined political processes if superficially applied but in a time when the authority of authenticity takes precedence over personal status or institutional loyalty, recreating the Chamolinia spirit might very well be the order of the day.

The old Chinese story of three persons chiseling on a stone, re-

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section

sponding with three levels of answers to the question of what they were doing, is very instructive. The first responded with, "I'm making a brick," and the second said, "I am constructing a wall," while the third declared, "I am building a castle." The first, at best, might get you Yu's garden by the Huangpu in Shanghai, and the second, a portion of the Great Wall that connected Qin Shi Huangdi's defenses, but the last would have been what it took to build the magnificence of the Forbidden City across Tiananmen Square and the conduct of royal and commoner's life within its walls.

What Thomas Berry said of the universe, applies as well with what story we say about our individual and corporate journeys, even of Commonwealths and nations. For peoples, their story of the universe and the human role within the universe is their primary source of intelligibility and value. ... Our story not only interprets the past, it also guides and inspires our shaping of the future.

Religion has been reduced to specialized functions in our lives these days, performed at special times and in sacred places, but at the book signing, the education establishment was in attendance and GovCNMI executive and legislative offices were duly represented. Education as fundamentally retelling our living story from beginning to end, the womb-to-tomb to individuals, and creation to evolution in the larger picture, would echo around personnel attending the book signing. The effort continues not just at PSS, but at NMTI and NMC, and those whose vocation it is to carve the building blocks that make for human consciousness. And as evident in our little Chinese story, how we tell it does make a hell of a difference on how we live our lives and what world we end up creating.

When Don Farrell was at the Guam Legislature, then senator Marsha Hartsock asked me to pronounce the Benediction at the '84 inauguration. Don and I were not introduced. Bishop Flores did the Invocation. To us personally and professionally, that was eons of images and metaphors ago (between Don's beard and my mustache, we would total six scores and a half of solar revolutions), but I walked out of the Resort murmuring a classic formula to the gathered assembly, "Grace and Peace."

"More power to you" was reserved for Don and Carmen; we await to see Part II soon.



The Saipan Tribune welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Tattoo you

nce upon a time I was trying to get some inspiration for a business logo design. So I dropped by a tattoo parlor in Garapan to take a look at the artwork posted on the walls, figuring it would maybe kick-start some concepts. I don't really know if it inspired any concepts, but it did inspire some rumors from passersby, evidently, since on two occasions complete strangers asked me what kind of tattoo I got.

How's that for cool? I got credit for being more hip than I actually am.

But now that I think about it, maybe it's time I re-branded myself into a more hip and edgy image. A tattoo would be a good start.

The benchmarks change over the years, you know. At my age, it's considered impressive if you still have all of your teeth, most of your hair, and some of your hearing. And, while none of us wants to "friend" anyone on Facebook, we're always happy to get the name of a good periodontist.

When I worked in Pago Pago I noticed some serious tattoos going on out there. And a tattoo enthusiast could have a field day looking at tattoos on Saipan, where island themes, Asian themes, and the mainland style of tattoos are all well-represented.

I don't know what percentage of Saipan residents have tattoos. But here's a number for you: An article in the May 11, 2009, *Christian Science Monitor* cited a 2006 estimate that fully 40 percent of people (presumably Americans) between the ages of 26 and 40 have tattoos.

"Tattoos remain a must-have accessory, even in recession," goes the title. "Tattoo parlors are seeing steady profits, as consumers shift spending toward purchases that are more meaningful."

Hey, a slam-dunk, right? Maybe. But just this week the Feb.9 Opinion page of the *Chicago Tribune* carries an article about the tribulations of getting un-inked. "Pencil this in: Removing tattoo ink is [a] costly, painful ordeal," it warns.

Back in the '70s, if I saw a tattoo at the dinner table it was because Uncle Rambo had served a hitch in 'Nam and got a tattoo on some boozy bender near Ft. Jackson before his battalion shipped out. I liked those tattoos, the skulls with flames shooting out of the eye sockets, the crossed bayonets in the background, and the proclamation of "Death Before Dishonor."

But now? Tattoos mellowed and made more friends, especially with the women. So by 2011, Aunt McGillicutty's got the full sleeve, half of sorority row has "stamps" on their lower backs, and your math professor, well, she got inked in places that even the medical professors are embarrassed to pronounce.

How did this transformation happen? Here's how I saw the evolution play out:

In the '80s, I noted that tattoos started going upscale, though in a quiet, nicely naughty manner. College girls would get discretely placed little images of a dolphin or a rose.

Then the '90s pumped up the volume. For half the population, the lower back, theretofore solely of interest to chiropractors, became a canvas for artistic expression.

Meanwhile, tribal-theme tattoos were popular with the mainland set and ubiquitous on Saipan. These were typically a patterned band

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at TropicalEd.com. Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday.



around the ankle or upper arm. I knew that tattoos were officially gentrified when dentists and CPAs were getting them.

But the tribal tattoo for mainlanders may have faded from dominance, supplanted in the new millennium by tattoos of Chinese characters (writing). Chinese is not exactly receptive to the casual interloper. Come to think of it, Chinese is not exactly receptive to the determined interloper, either. Anyway, entire websites have been devoted to various mistranslations indelibly inked on skin. Saipan surely has the expertise to steer around these gaffes, but in the mainland, well, there are some apparent risks.

As for me, I think I'll wait for the flaming eye-socket skulls to come back into fashion.

Correction: My skull slipped a gear in last week's column and I wrote about a 10,000 share stock purchase when the number should have been 1,000 shares. I'm grateful to the sharp-eyed readers who called the error to my attention, and kudos to reader John in Hawaii who was the first to notify me.

Obama channeling Reagan? Let's hope not

By MICHAEL KINSLEY

LOS ANGELES TIMES

ime magazine's cover this week features a Photoshopped picture of Ronald Reagan with his arm around President Obama. The cover story purports to answer the question of why Obama is channeling Reagan, a question no one was asking until *Time* brought it up. It's a standard newsmagazine technique to add a "why" to the thesis of a story. It makes it seem deeper, even while skipping over the hard part of whether it's true.

If Obama is attempting to emulate Reagan, there is no mystery about why. Reagan carried 49 states in 1984, the year he was reelected. But *Time* contends the 44th president is following the example of the 40th in some unusually profound way.

I hope that's not true. Reagan was a nice enough man—but a terrible president. I know, I know, you're not supposed to say this. Even political opponents are supposed to recognize and applaud his sunny disposition, his death grip on various bromides, his mystical connection with the voters, the wisdom in his simple view of a complicated world and so on. I am unpersuaded.

This is Reagan's centennial year. Ten years ago, on his 90th birth-day—when he was still alive—I attempted to summarize the case against his presidency in a pair of articles for Slate.com.

But the notion that Obama is following Reagan's example, though a characteristic newsmagazine conceit, is new. Where is the evidence? *Time* says it is "under the surface." Also "less substantive than stylistic and instinctive." That's for sure.

Time offers three kinds of evidence that Obama is following Reagan's path. First are quotes from various folks endorsing the proposition. Like this one: "Obama is approaching the job in a Reaganesque fashion," says hyper-historian Douglas Brinkley. And this man once had dinner with the president, so he should know. Trouble is, Doug Brinkley could out-amiable the Gipper himself. If you called him up, said you were calling from *Time* and working on a story about how half the Senate was secretly born on Mars, he would give you a confirming quote.

The article also cites a tweet from White House press secretary Robert Gibbs over Christmas about how Obama was reading a Reagan biography. Of course, if *Time*, even with its dwindling circulation and influence, wants to compare your boss to Ronald Reagan, why not help?

The second kind of evidence is coincidences on the order of "JFK had a secretary named Lincoln and was shot in a Lincoln, made by Ford, and Lincoln was shot in Ford's Theatre," and so on. Did you realize that both Obama and Reagan advocated large defense cuts in their second State of the Union addresses? That both called for simplifying the tax code?

Whatever he may have said in his second State of the Union speech, Reagan was obviously not a man for cutting the defense budget. As for tax reform, it was a defensive response to criticism that his tax cut the previous year had been too kind to the well-to-do. Obama, who also has displayed little interest in tax simplification, threw it into the stew to allay critics saying he was too tough on the well-to-do.

The third category of evidence is noncoincidences: actions and remarks so general or unobjectionable and so commonplace that they could be used to tie any president to any other. Reagan once

said, "Let us ... concentrate on the long-range, bipartisan responsibilities of government." Obama has "made compromise his new watchword." Obama wrote of Reagan that he "recognized the American people's hunger for accountability and change." Never mind that bipartisanship was never a big Reagan theme. Nor was compromise ever his watchword, nor accountability, nor change.

Reagan ran for president promising smaller government and a balanced budget. When he left office, federal spending was 25 per-

cent higher and the federal workforce was no smaller. Worst of all, Reagan, with his sunny disposition amid catastrophe, taught Americans that it will all be OK; don't worry about it. So for 30 years we didn't worry about it. Now we're worried. But it's a little late. I don't call that greatness, or worth emulating.

Michael Kinsley, a former editorial page editor of the Los Angeles Times, writes a column for Politico.

Letter to the Editor

An open letter to Kilili

Buenas yan hafa adai Congressman! I hope all is well with you and in good health.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you and wish you all the best on your second term in office. The proud people of the Commonwealth greatly appreciate all the effort and hard work and honorable service on your first term in office and that will always be in the hearts of the many people that again had given you the opportunity to serve your second term in the U.S. Congress.

As you embark on your journey back to the nation's capital, there is one agenda I would like to bring to your attention, a viable economic idea that for many years our past leaders have neglected or overlooked as a potential and viable economic opportunity. I hope our present leaders won't overlook this as well. We must act and respond to this very important constructive and productive economic idea and that is, importing of our local agricultural products (crops) into the United States.

I think we begin with U.S. Department of Agriculture. This is where we should start and open a dialogue and share the idea on how our local products can be processed to meet the requirements and enable them to pass USDA approval and be accepted for distribution in the markets of the United States.

But we must first seek assistance from the United States in assisting and in collaborating with our local government in the development of our local agricultural products with modern technology that will greatly enhance the growth and production of our local products, along with our local farmers and for those of us who will be interested in growing the variety of crops available on our islands.

Congressman, if we pursue this today, this will be the beginning of our agricultural industry—a chance to open the door of solid opportunity for our people. This will also encourage those interested in farming and exporting their products and for the local farmers to diversify the variety of crops. This will stir major economic activities and, with unemployment on the rise, this will create jobs and business opportunities for our people.

This opportunity will also give our farmers a broader understanding of today's competitive agricultural industry and provide them the essentials in producing quality products. They will learn to produce at the maximum quantity and grow better quality products. This will bring positive economic results and is a positive step toward building a stronger, productive, and sustainable economy in conjunction with our tourism industry. And with great pride I might add, when the quality product imported into United States or other countries are from the work and byproduct of our hardworking, productive people and the resources that we have.

I believe that we must start and pursue this viable agricultural opportunity now and not later. By doing so today, and with your effort and initial steps, I am positive and optimistic that we will see positive results that will lead us to see the light at the end of the tunnel and will bring us to a brighter economic future for all generations to come. But this will depend on how you take this matter of economics seriously and how you plan to build a solid economic foundation for the future of our people, our beautiful motherland, and our Commonwealth.

George M. Fleming Jr. Dandan, Saipan

Kilili's response

Greetings George: Thank you for your kind words of encouragement for me to continue my work for the people of the Northern Mariana Islands in our nation's capital. It is heartening to know that you appreciate the work I've done in the past two years. Even with all the challenges ahead, please know that I shall work even harder for our people.

I also want to thank you for the idea of opening up the U.S. markets for our local agricultural products. Now that I am on the House Agriculture Committee, it gives the CNMI the opportunity to influence legislation that will help develop local agriculture into a viable economic activity.

Again, thank you for your letter and I urge you to visit my website at www.sablan.house.gov to learn more about what your congressional office is doing and what we can do for you. While on my website, you can also subscribe to my weekly e-news.

Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan 112th Congress **12** FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2011 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Fast winds around 10 mph.

▲85° ▼77°



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.

▲ 85° ▼ 77°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼77°

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲ 86° ▼ 77°



Partly cloudy with

isolated showers.

▲86° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 84	▼ 77
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 85	▼ 78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 76
Pohnpei	Rain	▲ 83	▼ 77
Kosrae	Showers	≜ 88	▼ 78
Majuro	Mostly Sunny	▲ 86	▼ 76

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 73	▼ 68
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 34	▼18
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 60	▼52
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 78	▼ 68
London	Showers	▲ 51	₹40
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 74	▼ 45
Manila 7	Thundershowers	≜ 82	▼72
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲ 67	▼ 59
Miami	Showers	▲ 78	▼60
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 35	₹27
Osaka	Showers	▲ 42	▼34
Paris	Showers	▲ 51	▼35
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 41	₹25
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲ 60	▼ 42
Salem	Cloudy	▲ 58	₹45
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲ 66	▼47
Seoul	Sunny	1 29	▼16
Tokyo	Showers	4 2	▼35

Washington, DC Mostly Sunny ▲44 ▼30

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2011

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

set

6:19 PM 6:20 PM 6:20 PM 6:20 PM 6:21 PM

A couple of clusters of deep convection are found along a shear line draped across the Northern Marianas from 18N135E to 14N142E to 18N155E. Scattered showers and thunderstorms are found within 80 miles of 17N138E and 15N144E. Both points are west of Saipan. A weak circulation is centered near 18N133E. Extensive mid and upper level cloudiness and patchy light rain are found up to 350 miles north of a line from 18N132E to 25N164E. A surface trough west of Chuuk extends northeastward from 2N142E to 13N154E. Scattered showers are occurring between EQ and 7N from 141E to 148E and within 60 miles of a line from 11N150E to 14N153E to 13N158E. These areas are southwest and north of Chuuk. A trade-wind trough west of Kwajalein stretches northeastward from near Kosrae at 6N164E to 11N168E. Scattered showers are found southwest of Kwajalein and north of Kosrae between 6N and 9N from 161E to 167E.

	Ti	ides		6	Sı	ınrise/Suns
Saipan Ha	arbor				Today	6:44 AM
1:24 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet	1	Saturday	6:43 AM
6:15 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet		Sunday	6:43 AM
12:13 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	126	Monday	6:42 AM
7:59 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet		Tuesday	6:42 AM

Moonrise/Moonset							
Today	11:34 AM						
Saturday	12:12 PM	12:49 AM					
Sunday	1:14 PM	1:43 AM					
Monday	2:11 PM	2:39 AM					
Tuesday	3:11 PM	3:34 AM					

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The Saipan Tribune accepts for FREE publication the following

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones,
- accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings are other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ TRÁVELOGUE

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies
- Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- otos should be original and not copyrighted. Contrib utors must have the right to allow the Saipan Tribune to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months ■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number. ■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to

next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or iavvee valleiera@saipantribune.com
- Fax: (670) 235-3740 Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are 6397 235-2440 235-8747

POLICY

- The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The Saipan Tribune will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.

 For Travelogue, the Saipan Tribune reserves the right
- to choose which pictures to publish.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone ■ *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2010

DE	DAB	TUR	EG		ADE	RIVAL	9
							.5
SAIPAN			D-11.	GUAM-S			D-H-
C09317	4:25am		Daily	C09316	2:45am		Daily
C09313 C09313		8:45am 9:20am	3, 6 1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09596 C09596	6:35am	7:50am	3, 6 1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm		1, 4, 5, 7	C09600		10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 1 1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09603		3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09602		2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605		7:10pm	Daily	C09604		5:50pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN	-NAD	ITA /NI)T\	NARITA	/NDT	_CAID	A NI
DL287		8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am		Daily
DL285		9:15am	1, 3, ,4, 5, 6	DL286			2, 3, ,4 ,5, 7
DL297		7:15pm	Daily	DL288		12:30am+1	
							•
SAIPAN		KA (KI) 6:40am		OSAKA			
0Z119	4.00d111	b.4UdIII	Daily	0Z120	9.5Udili	2:20am+1	Dally
SAIPAN	-BUS	AN (PU	S)	BUSAN	(PUS)	-SAIPA	۱N
0Z608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	0Z607	9:10pm	2:20am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN	-SFNI	II (ICN	1)	SEOUL (ICN)-	CAIDAI	M
0Z606		6:00am	1	0Z603		2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
0Z606		6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	
0Z604		7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	0Z605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
0Z119	4:00am	11:25am	Daily via KIX	0Z605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN	-SHAI	NGHAI	(PVG)	SHANGI	4Δ1 (F	VG)-S/	ΔΙΡΔΝ
FM844		5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	
CAIDAN	-DELI	INC /D	FV\	DEL UNG	· /DEL	/_C	AN
SAIPAN CA988		6:55am	1, 5 Dec 13, 17,	BEIJING CA987	-	•	4 , 7 Dec 12, 16,
CA700	J.IJaili	20, 24 & 27		CA701	0. 4 0µIII	19, 23 & 26	
		.,	,			.,	,
SAIPAN				MANILA			
0Z606/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	MANILA 0Z704/603		L)-SAIP 2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
	2:10am		1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
0Z606/701 0Z606/701	2:10am 2:40am	11:50am 11:50am	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	0Z704/603 0Z716/603	12:10am 12:30am	2:20pm 2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN 4, 6 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:10am 2:40am 4:25am	11:50am	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z704/603	12:10am 12:30am 8:05am	2:20pm 2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
0Z606/701 0Z606/701 C09317/891 DL285/173	2:10am 2:40am 4:25am 6:40am	11:50am 11:50am 9:45am 10:15pm	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM	0Z704/603 0Z716/603 DL172/286 C0890/9606 0Z702/605	12:10am 12:30am 8:05am	2:20pm 2:20pm 12:20am+1 8:50pm 1:00am+1	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN 4, 6 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 3, 6 via GUM
0Z606/701 0Z606/701 C09317/891 DL285/173 C09313/933	2:10am 2:40am 4:25am 6:40am 7:55am	11:50am 11:50am 9:45am 10:15pm 9:25pm	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 via NRT 3 via GUM	0Z704/603 0Z716/603 DL172/286 C0890/9606	12:10am 12:30am 8:05am 10:55am	2:20pm 2:20pm 12:20am+1 8:50pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN 4, 6 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 3, 6 via GUM 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
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OZ: Asiana; CA: Air China

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA Fr	equency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipar	1		
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				

Letters to the Editor

The CNMI's losing team

The winners of the Super Bowl just highlighted the importance of teamwork; when one or two players went down others stepped up in the face of adversity and executed the game plan. The problem with our government is we have a team full of individual players who don't want to play together, with a coach (a governor) who keeps calling the wrong political plays. The biggest challenge for voters is to get the best team in office but we keep electing individual players who are really more for their political careers, which is why we see the constant jumping across party lines. Everyone should have learned this lesson, especially when the governor said he created the Covenant Party so he could be governor, which was clearly a personal act that all but destroyed the GOP team. In fact, there is a group now called the

GOP of Convenience and they know who they are. I just wish the leaders of the GOP would expose this group because someone needs to do it. As you can see, we still have a very long ways to go when it comes to creating a championship political team.

As usual, the proof about our dysfunctional team is in the details. I couldn't believe the governor and our delegate let the Mariana House, which belongs to the CNMI, sit vacant for two years in the middle of Washington D.C., where real estate and housing has prime value. This is a very big house that could have brought in a lot of rent money. I'm sure most people are also asking why our delegate isn't living in the Mariana House and paying the CNMI the rent money he is paying someone else. I have been in the house and it is large enough to be a multipurpose dwelling that could actually provide living quarters for our delegate and bring money in for the CNMI!

The governor and our delegate haven't worked together, which is probably why nothing has been done with the Mariana House. This is just the latest revelation about our poor teamwork in our politics. Our delegate is spending thousands of dollars to rent a place to stay and we the people have an empty two-story house in Washington! I'm sure every blind person can see the problem. This is just another example of why voters need to be smarter to protect themselves and the CNMI from the pitfalls of poor politicians and their bad politics.

The Senate is sending a resolution to Kilili to seek compensation to offset the economic hardships placed on the CNMI as a result of the implementa-

tion of the federalization law. This is what we should have done in the first place instead of a lawsuit. My only concern is that our delegate has not done the homework to justify this compensation. The first thing the feds are going to ask Kilili is "where is the proof?" He can introduce the bill but, without hard data as proof, the bill will just end up collecting dust. I had told our delegate about giving back \$400,000 the first year and \$175,000 in the second year of his term in Congress. He could have used those funds to put people to work in the CNMI to collect that data he will now need to prove the CNMI was adversely affected by the implementation of federalization.

The sad part is I actually wrote our delegate and told him that he should be using that money to educate the rest of Congress about the CNMI and the Insular Areas and to conduct surveys and polls to do the research about federalization that would justify the very concerns of the Senate. I want voters to know he totally ignored me because he was more against me than he was for the people. He was so arrogant and bent on making sure I didn't get credit because I was for another candidate so now everyone suffers. He still hasn't done the homework to justify the Senate's request and now the \$675,000 is gone! This is what we get for sending rookies to do something that requires real experience—it was like sending a rookie quarterback to play in Super Bowl, which doesn't happen. We lost the \$675.000 and we don't even get a chance at the big prize of getting economic recovery funding.

The other part of our political game plan to execute in Congress is the inability of our delegate to influence Congress. Kilili is not a Democrat of the mainland party and he is not on the GOP team either who rules the Lower House—so we

know these facts alone greatly reduces our chances of success even more. We are not giving ourselves a chance to win in the CNMI or in Washington and we keep shooting ourselves in the foot too often in the voting booth. Voters need to realize that we are the president and general manger of our political team and we must make real business decisions in the voting booth, not popularity decisions as we have in the past. The political game is unlike any other competition on earth because people actually live and die by the results, so if we want to live better we had better learn to vote better to get the best players and the best team on the field. People complain about the GOP but it was only during the times when the GOP was a solid team that we experienced a period of economic success—a lesson in our own history to be learned about team work.

Ambrose M. Bennett Kaaman, Saipan

Create frequent flier miles pool

line airfares for medical referral patients and escorts could be alleviated if all CNMI government Travel Authorization by way of policy makes it mandatory to deposit all earned airline frequent miles award to a dedicated frequent miles pool account just for this purpose. I overheard recently

The fix to the problem of air- a CNMI government official bragging that he had at one time accumulated more than 1.5 million frequent miles for trips he took on government business. Now all these accumulated frequent miles awards are benefiting his family for airline seats to summer vacation spots and exotic places anywhere around the

world. I am pretty sure that this matter could be seen as a significant public policy and those in government would see that it makes sense to redirect this resource for the benefit of those who are traveling for medical treatment.

Francisco R. Agulto Chalan Kanoa, Saipan





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Proposed exigency declaration for NMC junked

By MONETH G. DEPOSA moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The Board of Regents wanted yesterday to declare a state of exigency at the Northern Marianas College due to showcause concerns that need to be immediately rectified in less than a month.

College management, however, strongly opposed the idea, saying this may cause more harm than good in NMC's efforts to reaffirm its accreditation with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

Yesterday's special board meeting, which took more than an hour, eventually resulted in the proposal being scrapped.

A state of exigency will result

in the suspension of existing policies and procedures to allow the president to take all actions necessary to resolve urgent problems. This was one of the ideas tossed around at

According to accreditation liaison officer Galvin Deleon Guerrero, the proposal might only fuel concerns raised by the accrediting commission.

"The intent behind the resolution is very commendable. Our concern is that the nature of the resolution, particularly exigency in nature, might fuel the concerns of the commission about actions taken by NMC that tend to be ad hoc and reactionary," Deleon Guerrero told the board.

The accrediting commission recently placed the college on

extended show-cause status, saying that NMC has not fully addressed the concerns it had raised in the previous showcause sanction. It has given the college until March 15 to submit a new report on why it should be allowed to keep its accreditation.

Deleon Guerrero said that, based on numerous WASC reports, "a lot of what NMC does is not seen as a result of thorough dialogue and careful planning."

"We are concerned that this declaration may be interpreted in that way or level," he added.

An exigency resolution was first enacted in 2008 when NMC was dealing with its first show-cause. The board wanted

to give the president a "tool" that she might need to prepare for the March 15 show cause report.

Interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera said, however, that, despite the rigorous work that needs to be done, the declaration is unnecessary at this time.

"Galvin has a point. We do have policies in place and we have mechanisms in place where we can act in making decisions without this resolution. We do believe that our current policy and procedures will allow for us and the team to do what is necessary to prepare for the report," she said.

Cabrera described the college's existing policies as not

to "reactivate" the declaration perfect, but emphasized the need to adhere to them until they are updated.

> "We commend the board's active interest in the show cause...but at this point in time, it's a matter of entrusting the interim president and working with her," said Deleon Guerrero.

> Faculty Senate president Larry Lee and Staff Senate president Clarice Arriola, both honorary members, echoed the management arguments citing this will affect, instead of help, the institution.

"We don't need this. I think this will be seen as a negative action by the commission. I think it's important that we follow our policies," said Lee.

New regent Juan Lizama told his colleagues that the board has to trust the management in their capability to address concerns. "We're here to help them...not to weaken them."

In his final comment on the issue, board member Frank Rabauliman said: "Interim president, can we able to meet the outstanding recommendations without this exigency declaration?"

Cabrera replied: "I believe we

2 power outages tomorrow

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has scheduled two separate power interruptions tomorrow, Feb. 12, 2011, affecting the Kiya 1 and Kiya 2 feeders.

Both power interruptions are scheduled to start at 7:30am but power will be restored to the Kiya-2 feeder at 8:30am and Kiya-1, at 9:30am.

The Kiya 1 outage from 7:30am to 9:30am will affect As Terlaje, Fina Sisu, Kannat Tabla, and Airport Road. The Kiya 2 outage from 7:30am to 8:30am will affect As Lito, Koblerville, Afetnas, San Antonio, As Gonno, and Katmelo.

The Kiya-1 interruption will allow the line crew to perform general maintenance by replacing deteriorated pole hardware on three double circuit primary power poles on Chalan Monsignor Guerrero Road.

The interruption on Kiya-2 will allow the line crew to perform vegetation clearing on Tun Herman Pan Road.

The interruptions are necessary to ensure safety for the CUC line crew as they perform maintenance on the electrical grid.

"CUC apologizes for any inconvenience these scheduled power interruptions may impose on the community and its customers. CUC is currently training its power crew to eventually work on live wire to minimize future power interruptions," CUC said in a statement yesterday. (Saipan Tribune)





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Pamper yourself with Hyatt's i Sagua Spa Valentine treat

clarissa david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Let the season of hearts be the perfect opportunity to have your mind and body pampered, as i Sagua Spa launches a promotion ideal for this season of hearts.

i Sagua Spa, which means channel of water in Chamorro, is Hyatt Regency Saipan's luxurious urban spa that boasts of an exceptional custom-designed interior that provides an authentic indigenous experience. These treatments and services are based on four concepts of tides—Bula or the High Tide; Tasi, the Ebb Tide; Ma'te, the Low tide; and Hafnot, the Incoming Tide—all customized to meet the specific needs of guests.

From Feb. 11 to 18, i Sagua Spa will offer the Valentine Retreat Package for only \$120 per person, where individuals and couples can enjoy two-hour pampering services that include Peppermint Foot Ritual, Aromatherapy Massage, Tangerine Scrub, and Lavender Bath.

Guests who avail of the Valentine Retreat Package can use all spa facilities, including the Club Elan Fitness Centre.

Marketing communications and assistant manager Luis Villagomez said the Valentine Retreat Package is a sweet deal, with all the services included in the package valued at about \$250.

"Our goal is to have more



the island and trained them for

a month. Two years later, it was

Roda's turn to fly to Korea and

The highly qualified and well-trained team of i Sagua Spa at Hyatt Regency Saipan. From left, therapist Marites Tugade, management trainee Dolores Camacho, team leader and therapist Andy Roda, and spa guest service officer Vanerrie Villamor.

people know about i Sagua Spa and have them experience our exclusive treatments," Villagomez told Saipan Tribune.

Andy Roda, i Sagua Spa's team leader and therapist, disclosed that this is the first time that they've come up with a Valentine package that includes some of their exclusive services.

"The services included in the Valentine Retreat Package are among our guests' favorite spa treatment as wells," added Roda.

Aside from the promo, clients can also avail of other services on their extensive menu featuring massage, facial, skin, and body treatments such as the Mariana Island Signature Massage, Deluxe Caviar Facial, and the Tangerine Citrus Signature Polish.

Team of therapists

Roda, along with five other therapists and four guest service officers, comprise i Sagua Spa's highly qualified and welltrained team that guarantees customers with unforgettable spa experience.

To ensure that i Sagua Spa meets the Hyatt Pure Spa standards, Roda was trained both here and abroad.

In July 2007, months before i Sagua Spa officially opened to the public, Roda recounted that the Hyatt support team from Grand Hyatt in Seoul came to

half months.

"Our trainings have been very comprehensive, from handling cotton balls and towels to applying products and using equipment. With Hyatt Pure Spa's high standards, they ensure that all staff are knowledgeable and professional," she added.

Line of products

Since it opened in December 2007, i Sagua Spa prides itself in using only the most wellknown and finest products in the market, Kerstin Florian.

Founded in 1978 by its Swedish-born namesake who's a spa expert by profession, Kerstin Florian International is a company that manufactures European facial, body and bath products and treatments derived from natural resources including thermal

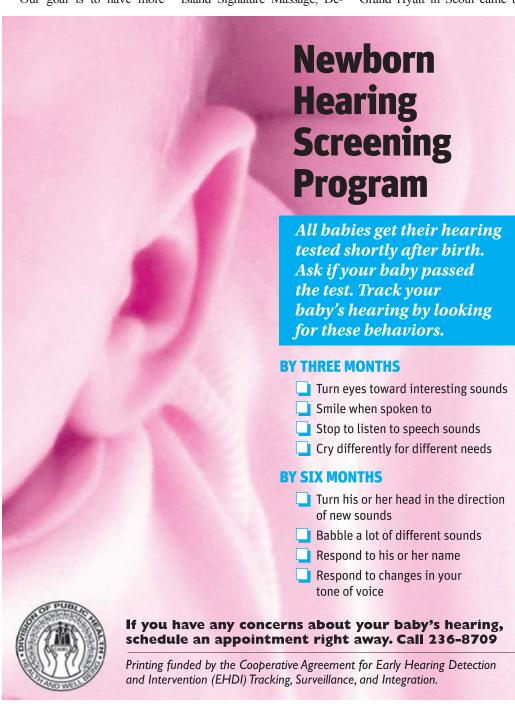
receive training for two and a mineral water, mud, algae, herbal extracts and essential oils.

> Kerstin Florian International is founded on the cornerstones to well-being—sound nutrition, regular exercise, peace of mind, and care of the face and body.

Besides Kerstin Florian products, Roda said the Hyatt Support Team also develops exclusive products made from materials indigenous to the CNMI.

For the perfect Valentine gift, Roda said gift certificates for the Valentine Retreat Package are also available and can be used for six months from date of purchase.

Experience indulgence at its finest only at i Sagua Spa. It is open from 10am to 10pm. All major credit cards accepted. For appointments or information, call 323-5888 or 234-1234 ext. 35.





Free workshop on tropical energy code

The Department of Public Works, through the Division of Energy Office, in partnership with representatives from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, will be hosting the CNMI Tropical Energy Code Workshop on Thursday, Feb. 17, from 9am to 4pm at the Pa-

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cific Islands Club in San Antonio, free of charge.

The workshop will be providing contractors, engineers, architects, and stakeholders guidance relative to compliance and enforcement of the Tropical Energy Code relating to residential and commercial buildings.

Funding opportunity for this workshop is made possible by the U.S. Department of Energy State Energy Program through a grant under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Because seating is limited, interested parties wishing to attend this important workshop are encouraged to contact the Division of Energy Office at 664-4480/1 to RSVP, no later than 4:30pm, Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2011.

For questions or additional information regarding this workshop, contact the Division of Energy Office at 664-4480/1. (Office of the Governor)

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CHC nurse completes bachelor's degree

A registered nurse at the Completed it in November 2010 monwealth Health Center recently completed with flying colors his bachelor's degree in nursing with the University of Phoenix.

Jefferson Santos, 27, has been working at the hospital since 2007 and has taken on several roles at CHC's dialysis

facility: as a vascular access coordinator, charge nurse. and staff nurse.

He will attend his university's commencement in Honolulu, Hawaii in May and sit for the Certified Nephrology Nurse Santos examination. San-

tos is confident that his experience in the areas of acute and chronic kidney diseases, acute therapy, and hemodialysis will help him pass the test.

Santos completed his elementary and high school at Grace Christian Academy. He went straight to nursing in August 2003 and completed his associate degree in nursing at the Northern Marianas College in May 2006. Santos self-reviewed for

months to prepare for the NCLEX-RN and was one of the first four students in his class to pass the exam.

Santos began his BSN program in August 2008 and com-

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with a GPA of 3.80. He is a member of the Sigma Theta Tau, an honor society for nurses, and the American Nephrology Nursing Association.

Santos said words could not describe how happy he was when he finally got his diploma from the University

> of Phoenix. He admitted that working and studying at the same time was not easy but the support of his family, friends, and co-workers enabled him to meet his goal.

Santos, the son of Auto Marine

Inc. owner Adonis and Josephine Santos, will soon start his online master's study, again with the University of Phoenix. He is married to Sarah Jane, who is also a nurse, and they have two kids.

Santos' message to those who plan to further their education: "Learning is an unending process, it takes time and dedication to achieve a degree. It's not something that happens overnight, therefore it is important to plan ahead and set a goal. Dedicate your time to your studies and set aside unnecessary things. At the end, everything will be worth it." (Moneth Deposa)



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GAO officials assessing impact of FAS migration to NMI

Visiting officials from the U.S. Government Accountability Office are on island to conduct their latest assessment relative to the Compact of Free Association.

David Gootnick, director of the GAO International Affairs and Trade, and his team met with CNMI officials from the Office of the Governor, Department of Public Health, Depart-

ment of Finance, Department of Commerce, and the Public School System at the governor's conference room vesterday.

The GAO team shared with government officials that members of Congress have asked that an assessment be conducted to ascertain and quantify in dollar figures the effects the Freely Associated States migrants have had in the CNMI.

MVA targets new Japanese cities

The Marianas Visitors Authority is seeking to attract visitors to the Northern Marianas from fresh cities in Japan with its newly implemented Unserved Cities Direct Flight Incentive Campaign.

The campaign runs through June 2011 and provides cash incentives for flights from cities and airports without service to the Northern Marianas, including Haneda International Airport, Sapporo, Niigata, Hiroshima, Fukuoka, Okayama, and Sendai. Flights from Nagoya and Osaka are also eligible during periods when seasonal scheduled flights are not operating.

Qualifying flights must arrive directly from these cities and have 80 percent of passengers deplaning at an international airport in the Northern Marianas. Travel agents sponsoring such flights will earn \$5,000 for each qualifying flight.

"Our nearest competitor, Guam, has over 30 flights arriving daily from cities throughout Japan. This incentive program sweetens the pot for travel agents to bring some of those tion funds are fully used. (MVA)

flights-or even new flightsto the Northern Marianas, first,' said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman. "By alleviating half of the cost to land at our airports, we aim to attract visitors that will generate more government and private sector revenue through their on-island spending."

MVA indicates that the program is currently underway and will terminate when 20 qualifying flights have landed at a Northern Marianas airport.

"The beauty of this campaign is that the MVA only expends funds when a travel agent fills an airplane that would otherwise not come here at all. The return on investment is outstanding," said Bateman.

The promotion is available to travel agents on a first-come, first-served basis and is capped at \$100,000. If a maximum 20 flights with 155 seats qualify, an additional 2,480 visitors will arrive during the period. The MVA projects \$2.1 million in direct impact and \$6.7 million in indirect impact if the promo-

16 Saipan beach sites red-flagged

The Division of Environment Quality has red-flagged the Tanapag Meeting Hall, Central Repair Shop, DPW Channel Bridge, S. Puerto Rico Dump, Outer Cove Marina, American Memorial Park, Hafa-Adai Beach Hotel, Hafa-Adai drainage, Garapan Fishing Dock, Garapan Beach, Garapan Beach drainage, San Jose Beach, Sugar Dock, CK Dist. 4 Drainage, Hopwood School Beach, and San Antonio Beach. DEQ is advising

the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

DEQ said that samples collected from these locations had excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

The Central Statistics Division under the Department of Commerce defines an FAS migrant as a person holding an FSM, Marshall Islands, or Palau citizenship.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial welcomes this latest GAO visit and is hopeful that through their collection of data, the Commonwealth will be able to realize increased funding.

"I urge our partners in the federal government to carefully assess the quantity of services provided to citizens of our sister islands living in the CNMI in order to fully reimburse the CNMI for associated costs. This way, we are able to

continue providing such services to everyone, including the FAS citizens, living in the CNMI," said Fitial.

Fitial also supported GAO's assessment to evaluate the positive impacts made by the FAS citizens. He added, "Most of the FAS citizens have resided here for a long time and are contributing members of the CNMI community. That is why my administration supports GAO's stance to also look at the positive impacts made by the FAS citizens through taxes paid, their involvement in the community, and their support

for the CNMI's economic development."

The governor urged citizens of the FAS countries and other non-government agencies to meet with the GAO team and share their experiences.

The GAO team will depart Saipan on Saturday, Feb. 12. (Office of the Governor)

Air Force holds FDM training

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla today, Feb. 11, from 9am to 7pm.

The public, especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and date indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national

defense because its location provides access frequency that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. (PR)





Tinian mayor sponsors 'Biggest Loser Competition'

The Tinian Mayor's Wellness Campaign will be kicking off today, Feb. 11, a 12-week weight loss competition, with over \$2,000 worth of prizes to be awarded to the individual with biggest percentage of weight loss after the 12th week. The competition, which will

give prizes to the biggest female loser, biggest male loser, and biggest group, department, or organization loser, is part of Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz's wellness campaign, which aims to educate and support the residents of Tinian in making vital choices and

"turn on their health genes" to promote health, wellness and vitality.

"Obesity and inactive lifestyles have become a lot like the weather: everyone talks about them but little action is taken," said Dela Cruz. "As mayor of Tinian, I have de-

cided to talk less and do more when it comes to these national killers."

Dela Cruz recently signed a proclamation marking the beginning of the Tinian Mayor's Wellness Campaign, which seeks to foster active living and healthier lifestyles.

"Our goal is to increase opportunities for our residents to participate in physical activities with a long-term goal of improving health, reducing deaths and the health care costs secondary to obesity. Through public-private partnerships, the campaign will

es for healthy community initiatives.

"I am encouraging everyone to play a leadership role in supporting local opportunities for active, healthy lifestyles. I have taken up that challenge," the mayor said. (PR)

IUMC sends peace and Chinese New Year wishes

The Immanuel United Methodist Church tries to learn about and celebrate the many countries and people in God's great world. After last Sunday's Worship Service and Sunday School, the children celebrated Chinese New Year by making dragon puppets, bags shaped like rabbits, to celebrate the year of the rabbit and carry their Chinese snacks home, and enjoyed finding which animal year they are. Annel Ligaya eagerly said she already knew she was a dragon!

Helen Carhill, who has learned Chinese, helped make a terrific peace poster similar to ones on doors at Chinese New Year, and taught others to say peace, thank you, and a few other words. Her mother and Sunday School teacher, Pam Carhill, centered a recent Sunday School lesson on needing to always thank God and each other. They built an appreciation wall, posted their "thank yous," and invited the adults to add



Immanuel United Methodist children send peace wishes to all for the New Year of the Rabbit with their red peace poster. They made it similar to ones on doors at Chinese New Year. From left, Gerald Aguino, Edrian Eviles, Annel Ligaya, Helen Carhill, and Lata Paongo show off the dragon puppets they made to send more New Year peace wishes.

their messages thanking God and each other. So, learning peace and thank you in Chinese fit together so well.

"Peace has been one of our church's major focuses throughout the year," said lay leader Losana Rogoyawa. "In September IUMC widened this by inviting the public to two peace game afternoons and then peace candlelight observance on United Nations-proclaimed International Peace Day."

On Sunday afternoon, Edrian Eviles was first to wear the giant dragon head made by the pastor and brightly painted by Grace Dowez. The rest joined behind Edrian in a lively dragon dance game, taking turns being the dragon head. Lata Paongo was a marvelous rabbit in the "Hop Rabbit Hop, Stop Rabbit Stop" game.

Sunday School teacher Sol Corpuz is always terrific about recording in photos Sunday School lessons and worship service's special children's time. For Chinese New Year, photographing Gerald Aquino, as

he eagerly tried each Chinese New Year event, was a challenge! Lucy Doton and Shelli Neal were great helpers for the younger ones.

IUMC continues to nurture its close relationship with St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Pastor Millie Carroll explained, "Since St. Paul's church service was same time as the Chinese New Year celebration, unfortunately their children couldn't join. IUMC hopes to have its first Vacation Bible School this summer and invite St. Paul's children and neighborhood children. Just one of IUMCs exciting hopes and plans."

Immanuel United Methodist Church warmly invites all to 9am Sunday Worship Services and children's Sunday School. Although multi-cultural, services are primarily in English. IUMC in Chalan Kanoa is on Chalan Kanoa Drive (east of Town Center and Beach Road. near Mt. Carmel Cathedral.) For further information, call 322-6158. *(IUMC)*







Public Service Announcement

The Department of Public Works, through the Division of Energy Office, in partnership with representatives from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, will be hosting The CNMI Tropical Energy Code Workshop on Thursday, February 17, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Pacific Islands Club located in San Antonio, free of charge.

The Workshop will be providing contractors, engineers, architects and stakeholders guidance relative to compliance and enforcement of the Tropical Energy Code relating to residential and commercial buildings.

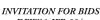
Funding opportunity for this Workshop is made possible by the US Department of Energy State Energy Program through a grant under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Because seating is limited, interested parties wishing to attend this important Workshop are encouraged to contact the Division of Energy Office at 664-4480/1 to RSVP, no later than 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 15, 2011.

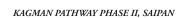
For questions or additional information regarding this Workshop, you may contact the Division of Energy Office at 664-4480/1.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works 2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai Saipan, MP 96950







Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Kagman Pathway Phase II, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)

The project package will be available on or after February 11, 2011 at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, Gov't. Bldg. 1353 Mednilla Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A non-refundable payment to One Hundred Dollars (US\$100). Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certificate (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2011. Preference is available to US Citizens as per Public Law 15-95 and as further Amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the BID if preference is claimed.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on March 02, 2011, 9:00 a.m. local time at the DPW Confrence Room, 2nd Floor, Joeten Commercial Building, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on *March 09, 2011* to Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Acting Director of Technical Services Division, Mednilla Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW11-IFB-004". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time *March 15, 2011*. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain and additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time March 15, 2011, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via email to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of the sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than March 15, 2011 and must be received no later than March 24, 2011. Note that failure

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, March 29, 2011. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bid will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on March 18, 2011.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bus security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid Security may be Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for the contract greater than \$25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and payment bonds must authorized to conduct business in CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time and completion of this is one hundred twenty (120) working days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at One Hundred Dollars (US \$100.00) per working day for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN Director of Procurement & Supply By CLARISSA V. DAVID

Six years after businessman Ta Bun Kuy initially discovered the health benefits of noni juice, he remains relentless in promoting the product that has had him fit as a fiddle.

Be it his own family, business associates, government officials, or ordinary citizens, Ta has encouraged more people to experience for themselves the health benefits of noni juice.

Noni juice comes from the plant Morinda citrifolia, a tropical plant belonging to the coffee family Rubiaceae and is native to Southeast Asia and has extensively spread throughout the Pacific islands, Indian subcontinent, French Polynesia, and the Dominican Republic.

Commonly known as great morinda, the Morinda citrifolia plant is also known as nunaakai in India, mengkudu in Indonesia and Malaysia, and noni in Hawaii.

"This product really changed my life," said Ta, who used to complain about his joint and back pains as well as cholesterol and blood sugar levels before he started taking noni juice.

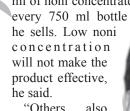
Ta told Saipan Tribune that it was in February 2005 when he began processing the noni fruit and discovered the most effective formula along the way without adding any preservatives.

"There are different methods of preparing noni juice so there are a lot of noni products in the market these days. But I can say that my own Noni Saipan USA Pure Juice is really effective because unlike the other noni products, mine is more concentrated," he said.

According to Ta, other noni juice products in

Businessman Ta Bun Kuy holds a bottle of Noni

the market only have 5 to 10 percent noni coners ask me to improve the taste but it shouldn't every day. Thanks to noni juice, asthma is a thing centrate for every bottle compared to the 500 ml of noni concentrate in



"Others also make their noni juice sweet to make it taste good and sell it more. Some custombe that way. As one Chinese proverb says, the best medicine is the one that has the worst taste," explained Ta.

Sans the pungent smell and strong taste, noni juice is believed to improve one's overall health and well-being as it contains significant amounts of fiber, vitamins and minerals, as well as phytochemicals that exhibit antioxidant properties that aid and protect the body against harmful free radicals.

When taken regularly, noni juice helps regulate blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar levels, protect the body against gastro-intestinal and respiratory infections, boost immune system,

prevents heart diseases and kidney stones, increase energy level, and relieve conditions such as ulcer and menstrual cramps.

In addition, noni juice is also touted as a beauty elixir for its anti-aging properties and has been proven to combat and treat skin conditions such as acne.

Testimonies

At 59. Ta attests that he is one living proof of the health benefits of drinking noni juice on a regular basis. "After I started drinking noni juice, I always have a clean bill of health from my doctor. And people would tell me I look younger than my age," Ta shared.

Accountant Lala Bartolome, who used to endure her asthma condition, told Saipan Tribune that she used to rely on her asthma nasal spray.

"Noni juice just turned things around for me. Now I don't have to carry my nasal spray all the time. I am now healthy and energetic of the past," said Bartolome who has been taking the nourishing drink for six months now.

Sook Kang Choi maintains that noni juice has done amazing wonders for her family's health.

"My husband has been complaining about his swelling and painful ankle. After taking noni juice, his ankle immediately improved and is no longer causing him problems," Choi disclosed.

Choi said she also makes her parents drink noni juice to keep them energized in their old age.

According to Choi, she first learned about noni juice from a friend who had frequent visits to the doctor for her irregular nose bleeding.

"She tried drinking the noni juice from Mr. Kuy and now it's gone. She doesn't visit the doctor anymore. It also helps her control her diabetes," she added.

'Dollar a day'

With the increasing medical costs nowadays, Ta maintained that drinking Noni Saipan USA Pure Juice would be more effective as it would only cost a dollar a day.

Ta said Noni Saipan comes in two sizes. The 810 ml bottle, which is good for 27 days, costs \$25. The bigger size, 1,200 ml which is good for 40 days, costs only \$35.

According to Ta, the recommended dosage for the noni juice is one shot glass a day, equivalent to 1 oz or 30ml, on an empty stomach.

"For those who haven't tried noni juice, I encourage them to try Noni Saipan. I believe in my product that's why we have a moneyback guarantee if our buyer doesn't feel the benefits of our noni juice. So they have nothing to lose," urged Ta.

Noni Saipan USA Pure Juice is available at Dollar Day Wholesale across from Rainbow Photo in Garapan. To order or for more information, call 233-2828.



Microbeach Hotel 24-Hrs. Open (Across Hyatt Regency Hotel) - Tel. 233-1388 • For inquiries please call 287-1328

20 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2011 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Island Snapshots

ADVANCED PLACEMENT SCHOLAR

Pierson Jon Cepeda, a freshman at California State University of San Marcos, has been recognized for his high achievement in the College Board Advanced Placement Program. Cepeda, a 2010 graduate of San Marcos High School in San Marcos, CA, has been a member of the National Honor Society, the National Honor Society of High School Scholars, a PACE scholar and a Top 10 graduate of his senior class. He was the secretary of the Interact Club, a Rotary sponsored club. He was also a member of his



high school football and track and field team. He is the son of John and Paula Cepeda of Chalan Kanoa. He is currently studying a degree in Engineering with an interest in Marine



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CHURCH TURNS 17

Victorious Christian Church celebrates its 17th anniversary on Feb. 6 at Pacific Island Club's Charley's Cabaret.

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a MPLT Trustees Special Meeting to be held on <u>Friday, February 11, 2011</u> beginning at 1:00pm at MPLT Conference Room, 1313 Anatahan Drive, Capital Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

The following agenda is hereby established:

- PRELIMINARIES
 - Call to Order
 - Roll Call
 - Adoption of Agenda Adoption of Minutes
- ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT
- CONSULTANT'S REPORT Ш
- IV OLD BUSINESS
 - Local High Yield Proponent(s)
 - CUC Funding Request
 - Local Investment Opportunities
- COMMUNICATIONS Letter from Vice Speaker
- **NEW BUSINESS** VI VII MISCELLANEOUS
- ADJOURNMENT VIII

At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

> /s/ Alvaro A. Santos Chairman, MPLT Trustees



TOYOTA SUPPORTS THE HUMANITIES

Business manager Glen Perez, left, and vice president/ general manager Doug Brennan of Microl Corp. present a \$1,000 check to NMI Humanities Council chair Tracv M. Guerrero. The Council will use this donation to support new public humanities programs and educational initiatives in the Commonwealth.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



Department of Public Health **Community Guidance Center**





PUBLIC NOTICE

The Community Guidance Center (CGC) Prevention Unit, specifically for the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) Project Brabu, is hereby giving notice that the Project Brabu Advisory Council is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, February 16, 2011, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Pacific Islands Club (PIC).

AGENDA

- CALL TO ORDER
 ROLL CALL
 REVIEW & ADOPTION OF AGENDA
 REVIEW & ADOPTION OF MINUTES November 23, 2010
- OLD BUSINESS
- a. Executive Order Update
 b. Strategic Plan Update
 ACTION ITEMS
 a. Sub grant Details
 - - Announcement Guidelines
 - Application Scoring Sheet
- VII. REPORTS
 - Chairman Director
 - Fiscal Report
- d. State Epidemiological Workgroup (SEW) Report
 e. Evidence-based Intervention (EBI) Workgroup Report
 VIII. NEW BUSINESS
- ADJOURNMENT

All interested individuals are welcome to attend. Should you need further information, please contact the Community Guidance Center, Prevention Unit – Project Brabu Office at 323-6571/2.

/s/ Mr. Jerome Ierome

/s/ Ms. Josephine Sablan Project Director CGC

Publication of this notice was paid for with federal funds made possible by Grant Number: 1U79SP015621-02 REVISED Of the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant,
Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administr

BOOK DONATION

Historian Don Farrell and Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz receive donations of books to the Tinian Public Library from Dr. Dave Tuggle of Tucson, Arizona. Dr. Tuggle, a retired archeologist, has been conducting archeological research on Tinian for various federal agencies for the past 20 years.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



GAMES SET

played against Calvary Christian Academy yesterday and will play Grace Christian Academy this afternoon at Whispering Palms.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2011 **21** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Business

Delta adds premium economy section on long-haul int'l flights

announced a major investment in its international fleet with plans to introduce a premium economy section—"Economy Comfort" on all long-haul international flights in summer 2011.

The new seats will feature up to four additional inches of legroom and 50 percent more recline than Delta's standard international Economy class seats.

The product, which is similar to upgraded Economy services currently available on flights operated by Delta's joint venture partners Air France-KLM and Alitalia, will be installed in the first few rows of the Economy cabin on more than 160 Boeing 747, 757, 767, 777, and Airbus A330 aircraft by this summer.

Customers who have purchased an international Economy ticket on Delta will be able to choose Economy Comfort seats for an additional fee of \$80-\$160 one-way through delta.com, kiosks, and Delta reservations beginning in May for travel this summer. ComComfort seats will be available to all SkyMiles

▲ DELTA 🖗

Diamond and Platinum Medallions; up to eight

companions traveling in the same reservation with Diamond and Platinum Medallions; and customers purchasing full-fare Economy class tickets. Gold and Silver Medallions will enjoy 50 and 25 percent discounts on the Economy Comfort seat fees, respectively.

"Just as Delta is investing in BusinessElite, which is among the industry's most competitive premium products, it makes sense to offer enhancements to our Economy Class service that provide additional comfort," said Glen Hauenstein, Delta's executive vice president-Network Planning, Revenue Management and Marketing. "Economy Comfort is one of many elements Delta is committed to delivering to our customers as part of a more than \$2 billion investment we are making in

ATLANTA—Delta Air Lines plimentary access to Economy the air and on the ground to improve the customer experience

and position Delta as a leader in customer service." AIR LINES

In addition to more leg room and recline, customers seated in Economy Comfort will board early and enjoy complimentary spirits throughout the flight. These benefits are in addition to Delta's standard international Economy class amenities, including complimentary meals, beer, wine, entertainment, blankets and pillows. In-seat power will also be available on aircraft equipped with personal entertainment systems which come with free HBO programming and other for-fee content(1). The seats will be designated with a specially designed

Full flat-bed seats on all international widebodies by 2013.

In addition to investing in the international Economy cabin, Delta also announced it now plans to install 34 horizontal flat-bed BusinessElite seats with direct aisle access in each of its 32 Airbus A330 aircraft by 2013. With this announcement, Delta now plans to offer full flat-bed seating in BusinessElite on all international wide-

body flights, or more than 150 aircraft, by 2013. (PR)

Delta Air Lines' seats in its new "Economy Comfort" section will feature up to four additional inches of legroom and 50 percent more recline than the carrier's standard international Economy class seats.

Watchdog: Gov't pay rules had few lasting effects

WASHINGTON (AP)—The government's restrictions on pay at bailed-out banks had little lasting impact because officials soft-pedaled some issues and did much of their work out of the public's view, a congressional panel says.

Obama administration pay czar Kenneth Feinberg used "black-box" processes that provide few lessons for the private sector, according to a report Thursday from the Congressional Oversight Panel that monitors the \$700 billion financial bailout fund. The report faults Feinberg for deciding not to seek the return of \$1.7 billion in banker pay that he deemed "illadvised.

An office with far broader oversight than Feinberg's failed to produce a single public document that could help Wall Street and its regulators improve bankers' incentives to make future crises less likely, the report says.

"There's a transparency problem with all of this," said panel chairman Ted Kaufman, a former Democratic senator from Delaware. "I don't know if they should have done more, because we don't have a real good idea of what they were doing."

The report says Feinberg's office successfully reduced overall pay by 55 percent between 2008 and 2009 for top executives at the seven companies that got the biggest bailouts. Their cash compensation was cut even more sharply, by 90 percent, Treasury has said.

Reducing cash pay shifted a larger portion of the executives' compensation into company stock. Increasing stockbased compensation helps tie pay more closely to executives' performance. If the company's fortunes rise, the stock is worth more.

Leon Guerrero is newest BoG vice president

Guerrero

HAGATNA, Bank of Guam has appointed School of Bank Investments

vice president/assistant controller.

Leon Guerrero is an alumnus of the Guam Community College Vocational High School, Class of 1992, and received her BBA, Accounting from the Uni-

versity of Guam in 1996. She completed the University of Wisconsin-Madison Financial Managers School in 2007 and the Moore School of Business,

Guam—The Executive Education, Graduate Tania Baldwin Leon Guerrero and Financial Management,

University of South Carolina in 2009.

Leon Guerrero joined the Bank of Guam in 1996 as a management trainee and rose within the Finance Division to become an assistant vice president/

investment officer in 2004 before becoming an assistant vice president/assistant CFO Accounting Department manager in 2008. (BoG)



I taotao As Teo man magof para u mana' fan manungo I publiko na I nobenan SANTA LOURDES giya As Teo para u matucha gi dia kuatro (04) de Febreru yan u fakpo' gi Sabalo, Febreru dia dose (12). I nobena gi dia kuatro (04) asta I dia onse (11) para u matucha gi oran alas sinko gi pupuenge (5:00 pm). Gi ha'anen I fiesta, gi Sabalu, Febreru dia dose (12) dos mit onse, I nobena para u matucha gi oran alas tres gi pupuenge (3:00 pm) ya utinattiye ni misa yan I likao. Para u guaha sena an makpo I likao guato gi as defunta van defuntu †Tan Maria yan †Benbal Borja, defunta †Rosa yan Eugenio A. Borja, yan gi lugat defunta yan defuntu as †Joaquina van †Daniel T. Borja. Todos man makonbibida. Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

The people of As Teo are happy to announce the annual novena in honor of OUR LADY OF LOURDES. The novena will start on Friday, February 04, 2011 and end on Saturday, February 12, 2011 at the Santa Lourdes Shrine. For the first eight days, the novena will be said at 5:00 pm. On the ninth day, (Saturday, the day of the fiesta) the novena will be said at 3:00 pm, followed by

Mass and procession, dinner will be served at the residences of the late †Tan Maria and †Benbal Borja, the late †Rosa & Eugenio A. Borja, and at the residence of the late †Joaquin & †Daniel T. Borja. Everyone is invited. Thank you very much.



IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE ISLANDS

FIRST HAWAIIAN BANK

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

VICENTE S. SALAS and

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, by virtue of a nd an Order Granting Substitution of Auctioneer dates December 20, 2010, in favor of Plaintiff, First Hawaiia December 20, 2010, in layor of Plaintitt, first Hawaiian Bank, and against Defendants, Vicente S. Salas and Joaquina DIG. Salas, and the Court ordering a public sale, pursuant to 2 CMC 4537 (e), of Defendants mortgaged right, title, interest and claim in and to real property and all improvements thereon situated in Capital Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mentiona Identify described as follows: property and all improvements the Capital Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth Mariana Islands, described as follows:

> Lot Number 018 E 29, Capital Hill. Saipan, as more particularly on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 018 E 01, the original of which was recorded on 01 onwealth Recorder's, Saipan

The undersigned will sell at public auction, to th highest bidder, Defendants' right, title, and interest in and to the above-described property, for cash, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow.

- 1. Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale is op and will be held on February 25, 2011, at the hour of 2:00 p.m., at the entranceway to the Law Offices of Thomas E. Clifford, Alexander Building, San Jose, Saipan. Registration for the uction sale will begin at 1:30 p.m.
- Inspection of Property. It is the responsibility of each bidder to inspect the property prior to the sale. Failure of the bidder to inspect the property or any portion thereof will not constitute ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by a bidder.
- <u>Warranties and Covenants.</u> The real proper listed in this Notice will be sold in its curre usted in this Notice will be sold in its current condition "as-is-where-is" as of the date of sale. The sale will be held without any warranties or covenants whatsoever, whether express or implied including but not limited to warranties of merchantability, and/or title of fitness for any purpose whatsoever, all which warranties and covenants are merchanianny, and/or due of fitness for any purpose whatsoever, all which warranties and covenants are hereby expressly disclaimed. Neither the undersigned nor the Plaintiff shall be liable for the quality of the real property listed, or for any defect in the description thereof. Buyer shall not be entitled to the description thereof. Buyer shall not be entitled to rescission, damages, or any other remedy on account thereof. The real property listed is being sold subject to all existing covenants, conditions, restrictions, reservations, exploration rights, casements, rights of way, assessments, zoning, and all other land use restrictions. And, the real property listed is being sold subject to the undersigned's acceptance of any bid.

- Conduct of Sale.
 RESERVE. The sale may be held without reserve, meaning a minimum price. Any reserve price on the real property offered for sale may or may not be disclosed to bidders, in the sole discretion of the undersigned.
- BIDS. The auction will be open, oral and verbal Advance bids for the real property listed in this Notice may be submitted in writing in advance of the auction date and time and delivered to eer, Micheline W. Brel, in care o Auctioneer, Micheline W. Bret, in care of the Law Offices of Thomas E. Clifford, Saipan. The bidder assumes all risk of non-delivery, late delivery, or error in delivery of advance bids. The highest advance bid will be the opening bid. The amount of increment increase bids and the decision as to naming who is the high bidder will be at the directi who is the high bidder will be at the direction and sole discretion of the undersigned. The highest bid made at the auction, and accepted by the undersigned, shall be considered an agreement by the bidder to buy the raproperty and that bid amount shall be final.
- DISPUTES. The undersigned may resubmit real property listed in this Notice, if a dispute arises as to any bid thereon.
- d. DEPOSIT. Immediately after a sale is consummated the successful bidder must pay to the undersigned a deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price. Payment shall be in cash, certified check, Cashier's Check or Money Order. The balance of 90% must be paid to the Plaintifi, in care of the Law Offices of Thomas E. Clifford, within seventy-wo (72) howes from the time of deals in each or (72) howes from the time of deals in each or (73) howes from the time of deals in each or (74) howes from the time of deals in each or (74) howes from the time of deals in each or (74) howes from the time of deals in each or (74) howes from the time of deals in each or (74) howes from the time of deals in each or (74) howes from the time of deals in each or (74) howes from the time of deals in each or (74) howes from the time of deals in each or (74) howes from the time of deals in each or (74) howes from the time of deal of Thomas E. Clifford, within seventy-two (72) hours from the time of sale, in cash or cash equivalent. If the full balance of 90% is not paid, Plaintiff will retain the deposit as liquidated damages and may again offer for sale the above listed real property.
- MEMORANDUM. If requested by the undersigned, a successful bidder must sign a Memorandum of Sale immediately after the sale of the listed real property is struck at auction. All sales are final and there are no refunds.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consister with the laws, customs, and usages of the CNMI governing auction sales, the undersigned shall have the following rights and duties: (1) To withdraw the real property listed in this Notice before sale or before a bid for such real property is accepted; (2) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before the real property is struck off; (3) To offer the real property listed in any order it may choose; and (4) To reject, on behalf of the Plaintiff, any and all bids for any reason. The exercise of any of these four rights and duties will be without incurring any liability wabsoever thereby.
- Court Approval Required. Every sale may be subject to approval by the Court. The auctioneer makes no warranties or promises with respect to Court approval of the sale, including but not limited to the time in which such approval may be granted. No delay in the granting of Court approval shall be ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any successful bidder. The approach bidder and the approval of the proposed bidder and the successful bidder. any successful bidder. The successful bidder will h promptly notified if and when Court approval i granted or rejected.
- Change of Terms and Conditions. The undersigned reserves the right to change the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, before the auction date and time or at the commencent thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, will be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 12th day of January, 2011 (ay of January, 2011. | Sy Micheline W. Brel | MICHELINE W. BREL, Auctioneer | P.O. Box 505710, Saipan | Tel: (670) 235-8064, 788-1855 Fax: 235-8070 E-mail: michbrel@hotmail.co

22 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2011 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Nation

Rep. Giffords speaks for first time since shooting

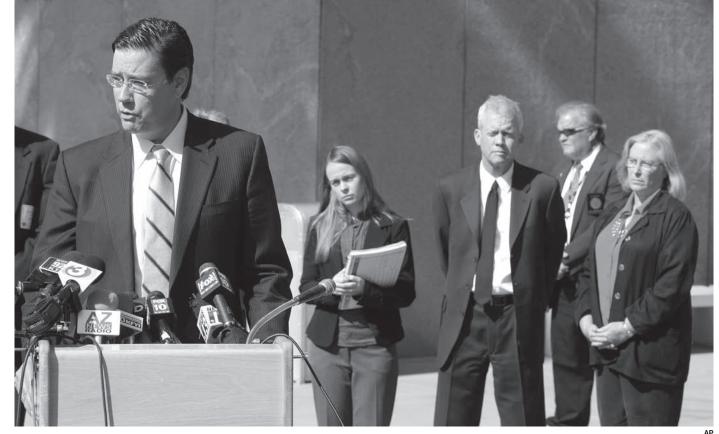
PHOENIX (AP)—Arizona Rep. Gabrielle Giffords spoke for the first time since she was shot in the forehead, her spokesman said Wednesday, yet another significant milestone in her recovery from a traumatic brain injury.

Giffords first spoke within the past few days and is speaking "more and more," spokesman C.J. Karamargin said Wednesday. He didn't know what her first words were, but said that at breakfast one morning she asked for toast.

"She's working very hard and it's paying off," he told The Associated Press. "We're elated at this. We always knew Gabby is a fighter and that she's not going to let this thing win. And you know, every day is proof of that."

Six people, including a 9-year-old girl and a federal judge, were killed in the attack outside a grocery store where Giffords was meeting with constituents. Thirteen people, including Giffords, were injured.

Other news organizations, including Politico, earlier re-



State Arizona Rep. Steve Farley, left, speaks about his Arizona House bill that bans the sale of extended clip gun magazines at the Arizona Capitol Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2011, in Phoenix.

ported that Giffords had asked for toast and was able to speak.

In a Facebook post on Tuesday, Giffords' husband Mark appetite back and was eat-

Kelly said his wife had her

ing three times a day, "even though it's hospital food."

"It is hard to believe that only one month has passed since Gabrielle was shot," he wrote. "The doctors say she is recovering at lightning speed considering her injury but they aren't kidding when they say this is a marathon process."

He said "there are encourag-

ing signs every day," pointing to her renewed appetite.

"Your prayers are being heard, so don't stop," he wrote. Kelly, a NASA astronaut, said last week that he expects his wife to be well enough to be at his space launch in two months. The space shuttle Endeavour will leave April 19 for a two-week mission to the International Space Station, and Kelly will be on board leading a veteran, allmale crew. The mission will be Endeavour's final flight and Kelly's fourth.

Dr. Gerard Francisco, who is treating Giffords at a rehabilitation facility in Houston, said Tuesday that he hopes the congresswoman can make enough progress to attend the space launch, but said it's too early to say. Arizona state Sen. Ken Cheuvront, a friend of Giffords who shared a house with her and another lawmaker when they served together in the Legislature, said he was excited to hear that she is speaking again.

"It gives all of us a lot of hope that she'll have a full recovery," Cheuvront said. "She's a fighter, there's no ifs, ands or buts about that. She's always been very tenacious, and I have no doubt whether it's politics or her recovery that she'll still have that same amount of energy."

NY Rep. Lee resigns after shirtless photo story



In this image provided by the U.S. House of Representatives, Rep. Christopher Lee, R-N.Y., is seen in Washington.

CLARENCE, N.Y. (AP)—A married New York congressman accused of sending a shirtless photo of himself to a woman abruptly resigned Wednesday, saying he regretted actions that had hurt his family and others.

The gossip website Gawker reported Wednesday that Rep. Christopher Lee, a two-term Republican with a young son, had e-mailed the photo to a woman he met on the Craigslist classified-ads website.

Lee said in an e-mailed statement that his resignation was effective immediately. The statement offered no confirmation or details of a Craigslist posting.

"I regret the harm that my actions have caused my family, my staff and my constituents,"

on his congressional website. "I deeply and sincerely apologize to them all. I have made profound mistakes and I promise to work as hard as I can to seek their forgiveness."

Lee said the challenges faced in western New York, where he serves the 26th Congressional District, and across the country are "too serious for me to allow this distraction to continue, so I am announcing that I have resigned my seat in Congress effective immediately."

Lee's resignation comes almost a year after Democrat Eric Massa resigned his seat in western New York's 29th Congressional District amid an investigation into whether he sexually harassed male staffers. Massa gave contra-Lee said in a statement posted dictory explanations for his be-

havior, acknowledging he groped and tickled a staffer in a nonsexual way and wrestled with others at his 50th birthday party but then denying any groping occurred.

In Lee's case, a woman described as a 34-year-old Maryland resident and government employee provided Gawker with e-mails she said were an exchange between her and Lee in response to an ad she placed last month in the "Women Seeking Men" section of Craigslist.

Gawker reported that Lee identified himself as a divorced lobbyist and sent a photo of himself posing shirtless in front of a mirror. It said the woman eventually broke off the contact with Lee after becoming suspicious that he had misrepresented himself.

ACROSS THE NATION

Second blizzard howls through weary Okla., Ark.

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)— Another powerful blizzard howled through the nation's midsection Wednesday, piling up to 2 feet of new snow on parts of Oklahoma and Arkansas still struggling to clean up from last week's epic storm. The blowing snow brought traffic to a halt, and the National Guard was summoned to rescue stranded motorists. Subzero wind chills forced ranchers to work desperately to protect their herds. As the storm barreled out of the Plains, it took aim at the Deep South, which was expected to get up to five inches of snow. At least two traffic deaths were blamed on the system.

2 boys dead, brother wounded in home near Atlanta

LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga. (AP)—Two young children were either stabbed or shot to death and a 4-year-old boy was in the hospital Wednesday night after an attack at their home in an Atlanta suburb, police said. A man who is either their father or stepfather

also was wounded and in serious condition at a hospital, police said. Police found the bodies of the 1-year-old and 4-year-old in the home and the wounded child was flown to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston, Gwinnett County police Cpl. Jake Smith told reporters near the scene. He says the wounded child was flown to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston.

80-year-old woman gets 5 years for diamond theft

SAN DIEGO (AP)—An 80-vear-old woman with a decades-long criminal history who was convicted of stealing a diamond ring worth nearly \$9,000 from a San Diego department store was sentenced Wednesday to five years in prison. Doris Payne was found guilty last month of burglary and grand theft in connection with the January 2010 incident at the Fashion Valley shopping center Macy's. San Diego County Superior Court Judge Frank Brown said Payne deserved the maximum sentence because she has several prior convictions for theft and has been sent to prison twice.

Mom: Woman who left baby in toilet can't remember

The South Carolina woman accused of giving birth in an arena toilet during the circus and leaving the baby told her family afterward she was bleeding heavily, but didn't know why.

As 24-year-old Jessica Blackham checked herself into a hospital six miles away, a cleaning crew found the 6-pound boy, his skin purple and breathing so labored he could barely cry. The custodians desperately followed a 911 operator's directions, one of them even whispering "vas a estar bien, bebe" (you're going to be OK, baby) as he used his finger to sweep some mucus from boy's mouth. The baby is

The details of Friday night came into focus when the cleaning crew talked to the media Wednesday about their discovery, and Blackham's mother tried to explain to a judge what had occurred.

"She had amnesia, couldn't remember what happened. She went there (to the hospital) of her own accord because she knew she was bleeding and something was wrong," Anita McAuliffe said at her daughter's bond hearing.

Jessica Blackham went to the circus with her sister and her family, but without her 4-yearold daughter. She has no idea what happened after she entered

GREENVILLE, S.C. (AP)— in good condition at a hospital. the cramped pink stall, giving \$30,000, and jail records indicate birth and passing her placenta in a space less than three feet across, likely toward the end of the show. McAuliffe was not at the circus and it's unclear whether Blackham went straight to the hospital or somewhere else after the event.

Blackham has cooperated with police since the hospital notified investigators of her condition hours after she arrived.

"She's had periods. There's been no sign whatsoever of her pregnancy," McAuliffe said.

Blackham is charged with one count of felony child abuse and one count of unlawful neglect toward a child. Her bond was set at

she has been released. If convicted of both charges, she could face up to 30 years in prison.

Blackham told the judge she had an idea who the baby's father was, but it wasn't her husband, whom she had been separated from for nearly a year.

Blackham's husband told WYFF-TV his wife's mental condition went downhill while they were married and he urged her to get help. He can't believe she didn't know she was pregnant.

"She has so much familv that's backed her up. I don't know what happened," Thomas Blackham said.

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Asia

Witness: General's suicide won't stop testimony

MANILA, Philippines (AP)— A former budget officer said Wednesday he will keep testifying against Philippine generals implicated in a corruption scandal despite the suicide of an ex

military chief. Retired Gen. Angelo Reyes, who also was a former defense chief, fatally shot himself in the chest with a pistol at his mother's grave Tuesday after he and two other ex military chiefs of staff were accused of pocketing millions of pesos (millions of dollars) in funds intended for troops salaries, a hospital and combat needs, officials said.

Corruption, long entrenched in Philippine society, is an especially explosive issue in the inadequately equipped and poorly paid 120,000-strong military and has sparked several insur-



In this May 4, 2010 file photo, former Philippine Energy Secretary and retired Gen. Angelo Reyes, left, gestures as he questions members of the Commission on Elections in Manila, Philippines.

rections in the last two decades by disgruntled troops.

"I started this and I'll finish it," former military budget officer Lt. Col. George Rabusa told the ABS-CBN network. He said including two former military chiefs of staff, could be charged with plunder based on evidence in his possession.

Rabusa's lawyer, Noel Malaya, told The Associated Press dozens of retired and active military personnel and some government auditors who took bribes to overlook massive corruption could also be held liable if the Department of Justice decides to charge them.

In startling testimony before the Philippine Senate last month, Rabusa claimed that Reyes and two other former military chiefs received huge payoffs and "send-off money" when they retired. He said the money came from an illegal contingency fund collected from key military units, which were forced to cut their con-

at least four retired generals, gressionally approved budgets for troop salaries, weapons, equipment and combat needs.

Rabusa told the AP that mili-

tary officials padded budgets for annual U.S.-Philippine military war exercises in at least 2001 and 2002 so they could divert the excess amount to the illegal fund. As a result, the counterpart fund contributed by the U.S. military for the exercises was also in excess, he said.

Rabusa said he did not know what happened to the additional U.S. payment and was ready to help American authorities if they decide to investigate.



General Membership Meeting

All friends, volunteers, partners, and clients of the Commonwealth Cancer Association (CCA), and all members of the community, are invited to the general membership meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2011 at the Department of Public Health, Secretary's Conference Room, at 5:30pm.

The agenda will include annual reports of the President, Treasurer, and Program Manager; election of four CCA Board members; and opportunity for public comments. Nominations for board members will be accepted in advance and on the floor.

To submit a board nomination, or for more information, contact CCA Program Manager Tina Sablan at 682-0050 or email cca@ccamarianas.org.

www.ccamarianas.org

Suicide bomber kills 27 soldiers in NW Pakistan

PESHAWAR,

Pakistan

(AP)—A young suicide bomber in a school uniform attacked soldiers during morning exercises at a Pakistani army training camp Thursday, killing 27 troops and wounding 40 others, police and the military said.

The attack in the northwest town of Mardan showed that despite years of army operations against their hideouts along Pakistan's border with Afghanistan, Taliban and al-Qaidalinked fighters retain the ability

to strike back. It was one of the worst attacks on security forces in recent months.

Senior police official Abdullah Khan said 27 soldiers died and around 40 were wounded, some critically. The army, which tends to release information much slower, put the death toll in an earlier statement at 20 and confirmed the general circumstances.

Despite his apparent disguise, the bomber's ability to get his explosives into the facility undetected signaled a failure on the part of the military. Such army areas are usually heavily guarded, though an attack on the same training facility in 2006 killed 35 soldiers.

Troops quickly cordoned off the area and even police had a difficult time getting through.

No particular militant group immediately claimed responsibility Thursday, though the Pakistani Taliban have staged such attacks in the past.

The army has staged multiple offensives in Pakistan's northwest aimed at taking out the Pakistani Taliban in recent years. Its efforts against the group, which is distinct from but linked to the Afghan Taliban, appear to have been largely successful—but violence persists.

ASIAN BRIEFS

NKorea says no more military talks with **SKorea**

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)— North Korea said Thursday that it would not hold further military talks with South Korea, accusing Seoul of lacking serious intent to improve relations. The announcement by the North's military, made in a statement carried by state media, c me one day after its first military talks with South Korea in months ended with no agreement. The discussions were aimed at laying the groundwork for higher-level defense talks and were the first official dialogue between the Koreas since a North Korean artillery barrage killed four people on a front-line South Korean island in November.

Australia PM introduces disaster tax to **Parliament**

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Australia's prime minister

introduced tax legislation to Parliament on Thursday that would help pay for record storm and flood damage, as debate raged about whether the government should instead cut foreign aid. Prime Minister Julia Gillard said the government's bill for roads, bridges and other infrastructure damaged by weeks of flooding

in northeast Queensland state was at least \$5.6 billion. Her proposed new income taxes would raise \$1.8 billion. The cost of the damage from a major cyclone that struck Queensland's coast last week-compounding the flood losses and leaving almost three quarters of the state a disaster area—has yet to be calculated.

Cambodia troops bunkered at cliff-top Khmer temple

PREAH VIHEAR, Cambodia

(AP)—Hundreds of Cambodian soldiers were camped Wednesday at a cliff-top Khmer temple in the line of fire from deadly border skirmishes with Thailand, as the Cambodian leader raised the temperature in the conflict by declaring it a "real war." Cambodia's government denies that it deploys soldiers at the millennium-old World Heritage site—seeking to avoid the impression it would deliberately put the temple in danger or use it as a shield-and has accused Thailand of seriously damaging the complex. However, Associated Press journalists who visited the temple Wednesday found hundreds of Cambodian soldiers deployed in and around the sprawling temple compound, which was fortified by sandbagged bunkers.

Kinder 4 Choral Speaking—First Place

Hana Rhys L. Diaz Elishah Mae P. Valdez Betty C. Matson Jenny Ann Santos

Kinder 3

Akysha Castro

Dramatic Interpretation-5th Place Betty C. Matson

Kinder 5 Choral Speaking-First Place Wendelle Lhiza Posadas

John Lawrence Apit Dianna Catiaan Ma. Isabelle Bayani Hannah Colleen Gaspar

Duo-First Place John Lawrence Apit Wendelle Lhiza Posadas

Duo B-First Place Isaiah Niel Bayani Diane Kelly Bautista

Readers' Forum-First Place Isaiah Niel Bayani

First & Second Grades

Richard Waldo Kaito Noah Nishimura

Event was held at Koblerville Elem. School Humorous Interpretation-First Place on January 22, 2011

Congratulations to all PGFC Participants!

Joshua Generation International Academy

Thank you parents for your untiring support and dedication to your children.



Thank you also to our dedicated teachers/coaches!! Rency H. Castro, Zenaida Marcelo, Faith Nalam and Jocelyn Bonsilao

Enrollment for school year 2011-2012 will start on March 15, 2011

Readers' Forum C-2nd Place Bernard Angelo Marcelo

Readers' Forum Master B-2nd Place Diane Kelly Bautista

Readers' Forum B-3rd Place Jennalyn Rose Travilla

Dramatic Interpretation-3rd Place Bernard Angelo Marcelo

Duo A-4th Place Richard Waldo Kaito Nishimura

Third Grade Readers' Forum-First Place Richard Enrico Baleares

Readers' Forum-2nd Place Naomi Jen Armas Christine Zamantha Icmat

Choral Speaking—3rd Place Crystal Fiona Manipon Christine Zamantha Icmat

Dramatic Interpretation Naomi Jen Armas—3rd Place Richard Baleares—5th Place

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World

Strikes in Egypt add to pressure from protests

workers went on strike Wednesday across Egypt, adding a new dimension to the uprising as public rage turned to the vast wealth President Hosni Mubarak's family reportedly amassed while close to half the country struggled near the poverty line.

Protests calling for Mubarak's ouster have been spreading since Tuesday outside of Cairo's Tahrir Square, where demonstrators have been concentrated for the past two weeks. On Wednesday, protesters also gathered at parliament, the Cabinet and the Health Ministry buildings, all a few blocks from the square, and blocked Prime Minister Ahmed Shafiq from his office.

Strikes erupted in a breadth of sectors-among railway and bus workers, state electricity staff and service technicians at the Suez Canal, in factories manufacturing textiles, steel and beverages and at least one hospital.

In one of the flashpoints of unrest Wednesday, some 8,000 protesters, mainly farmers, set barricades of flaming palm trees in the southern province of Assiut. They blocked the main highway and railway to Cairo to complain of bread shortages. They then drove off the governor by pelting his van with stones.

Hundreds of slum dwellers in the Suez Canal city of Port Said set fire to part of the governor's headquarters in anger over lack of housing.

Workers "were motivated to strike when they heard about how many billions the Mubarak family was worth," said Kamal Abbas, a labor leader. "They said: 'How much longer should we be silent?""

Egyptians have been infuriated by newspaper reports that the Mubarak family has amassed billions, and perhaps tens of billions of dollars in wealth while, according to the World Bank, about 40 percent of the country's 80 million people live below or near the poverty line of \$2 a day. The family's true net worth is not known.

"O Mubarak, tell us where you get 70 billion dollars,"



Anti-government protestors hold candles as they walk past Egyptian Army tanks and armored vehicles at Tahrir square in Cairo, Egypt, Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2011.

Berlusconi: Sex trial request is bid to topple him

Berlusconi

MILAN (AP)—Scandalplagued Premier Silvio Berlusconi defiantly accused prosecutors Wednesday of trying to topple his government by seeking to put him on trial on charges he had sex with a 17-year-old girl and then tried to cover it up.

The sex scandal has splashed salacious details and allegations of wild parties at Berlusconi's villas across newspaper front pages for weeks and drawn the ire of the Catholic Church.

Though no stranger to legal cases, this is the first judicial action against the three-time premier and media billionaire to impugn his personal conduct, rather than his business dealings. The case raises questions about Berlusconi's ability to govern effectively under mounting legal pressure, and comes at a time when he has

an ex-ally.

Prosecutors allege Berlusconi, 74, paid for sex with the Moroccan girl, nicknamed Ruby, who has since turned 18,

then used his influence to get her out of police custody when she was detained for the unrelated suspected theft of euro3,000 (\$4,103). They allege that he feared her relationship to him would be revealed.

Ruby was released into the custody of a Berlusconi aide, who also is under investigation with two other confidantes. Paying for sex with a prostitute is not a crime in Italy, but it is if the prostitute

is under 18. The age limit was

been weakened by a fight with raised from 16 in 2006 during a campaign against underage prostitution by a previous Berlusconi government.

Prosecutors are seeking an immediate trial—a sped-up

> procedure that would skip the preliminary hearing-because they believe they have sufficient evidence against the premier. The have forwarded a 782page document to Judge Christina Di

Censo to back up their indictment request.

Speaking at a news conference in Rome, Berlusconi said the prosecutors had "offended the dignity of the country" with a smear campaign and groundless allegations

"It's shameful, really. It's four to 12 years.

shameful and disgusting," he said of the prosecutors' actions.

"I wonder who's going to pay for these activities, which, in my humble view, only have a subversive aim,' Berlusconi added.

Berlusconi said prosecutors had smeared not just his name but that of Italy. He insisted he has only been at the service of his nation.

Both Ruby and Berlusconi have denied having sexual relations, although she has said Berlusconi gave her euro7,000 (\$9,550) on their first meeting.

The child prostitution charge carries a possible sentence of six months to three years; the abuse of influence charge, which experts say is more dangerous for Berlusconi, carries a possible sentence of



dozens of protesters chanted in front of the Health Ministry.

For the first time, protesters were forcefully urging labor strikes despite a warning by Vice President Omar Suleiman that calls for civil disobedience are "very dangerous for society and we can't put up with this at all."

His warnings of a possible "coup" Tuesday were taken by protesters as a veiled threat to impose martial law-which would be a dramatic escalation in the standoff. But instead of backing off, they promised more huge protests on Friday.

"He is threatening to impose martial law, which means everybody in the square will be smashed," said Abdul-Rahman Samir, a spokesman for a coalition of the five main youth groups behind protests in Tahrir Square. "But what would he do with the rest of the 70 million Egyptians who will follow us afterward."

Suleiman is creating "a disastrous scenario," Samir said. "We are striking and we will protest and we will not negotiate until Mubarak steps down. Whoever wants to threaten us, then let them do so," he added.

The protesters filling streets of Cairo and other cities since Jan. 25 have already posed the greatest challenge to the president's authoritarian rule since he came to power 30 years ago. They have wrought promises of sweeping concessions and reforms, a new Cabinet and a purge of the ruling party leadership, but Mubarak refuses their demands that he step down before September elections.

WORLD BRIEFS

Somali pirates capture supertanker, \$150M of oil

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—Somali pirates captured a Greekflagged supertanker carrying an estimated \$150 million worth of oil to the Gulf of Mexico on Wednesday, the second successful attack against an oil tanker by sea bandits in two days, officials said. Such vessels can command higher ransoms because of the value of the crude on board.

Owners of the oil may want to resolve hostage situations quickly, particularly if oil prices are dropping, a situation that can cost owners millions of dollars more than the pirate ransom will. Still, ransom prices are on the rise. One last year reached \$9.5 million, and the increasing prizes have provided even more incentive for pirates to launch attacks despite stepped-up patrols by an international flotilla of warships. Pirates currently hold 29 ships

and roughly 660 hostages.

Colombia rebels free councilman taken in June 2009

VILLAVICENCIO, Colombia (AP)—A 35-year-old town councilman taken hostage in June 2009 was released by Colombian rebels Wednesday, the first of five captives they promised to free this week. The leftist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, handed Marcos

Baquero over to the International Red Cross and former Sen. Piedad Cordoba in the southeastern jungle. He was flown on a loaned Brazilian military helicopter emblazoned with Red Cross symbols to Villavicencio, gateway to Colombia's eastern plains. Looking somber, he embraced his wife and two small children on the airport tarmac. Baquero, who wore jeans and a white, long-sleeve shirt, did not talk to reporters. He is the 15th captive released by the FARC

since early 2008 in what are widely seen as good-faith gestures seeking a peace dialogue.

Mexico angry at US official's 'insurgency' remark MEXICO CITY (AP)—

The Mexican government on Wednesday condemned comments by a top U.S. Defense Department official characterizing the drug gang violence here as a "form of insurgency"—remarks the official later apologized for and retracted. Mexico's Foreign Secretary Patricia Espinosa regretted that "outdated visions" on drug trafficking continue to be used and urged U.S. officials to refrain from commenting on issues they are not fully informed about. "These unfortunate incidents should show that officials need to refrain from making statements, from giving opinions without having all the facts," Espinosa said.

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Off The Wall

burglar strikes again

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP)—Hungary's notorious octogenarian thief is not ready for retirement.

The 84-year-old woman, known as "Flying Gizi," whose criminal record goes back to the 1950s, is again in custody for suspected theft, police said Tuesday.

Fejer County Police spokeswoman Agnes R. Szabo said the burglar, whose real name is Gizella Bodnar, is suspected of taking some 15,000 forints (euro55, \$75) from a home in Bicske, a town in central Hungary.

Bodnar, who has been convicted of over 20 crimes and has spent nearly 18 years in prison, got her nickname because she enjoyed taking domestic commercial flights after successful break-ins.

She eluded capture for years, as police never imagined that the cat burglar would travel so far to commit her crimes.

This time, she only got as far as the Bicske train station before the police found her and the missing cash she took from a wallet on the house's living room table.

Bodnar, who began her criminal activities shortly after World War II, published an autobiography in 2007, claiming that she became a kleptomaniac as the result of a youthful bout with meningitis.

Bodnar also insists she has a special sense about finding hidden jewelry and other valuables quickly in her victims' homes.

Old age has not deterred her. In the past few years she has been fined several times for petty thefts around the country. Based in Budapest, she now favors the railroad, where Hungarian pensioners travel for free, over airlines.

"She's a unique case in Hungarian criminology," Szabo admitted.

Hungary's 84-year-old | 'I'm robbing you, sir': 'Polite' robber arrested

SEATTLE (AP)—A man accused of robbing a Seattle convenience store at gunpoint last weekend might have earned points with its owner by being polite.

But saying "sir" probably won't impress prosecutors or federal authorities who say they have supervised him since he wrapped up a prison term for an earlier string of hold-ups.

The King County Sheriff's Office identified the suspect Tuesday as Gregory P. Hess, 65.

He's a former Starbucks barista who has been on federal supervision since 2007, when he was released from prison after receiving a nearly six-year sentence for hitting five banks and a video store in the Seattle area.

His bail was set at \$250,000. He is being held for investigation of robbery but has not been charged.

Hess was arrested after surveillance video of Saturday's robbery "went viral" and prompted several tips about the suspect's identity, said sheriff's Sgt. John Urquhart.

The man in the video is seen telling White Center Shell station owner John Henry: "Could vou do me a favor? Empty the till for me please and put it right here. . I'm robbing you, sir."

"Are you sure?" Henry replies. "Yes, I'm sure," the man says. "Why do you want to do that?"

"Because I need the money," the man answers. "I've got kids that need to be fed, sir. . I really am sorry to have to do this."

Henry offered the man \$40, but the suspect declined it and took \$300, promising to pay the money back later, if he could.

Hess worked for three years at a Starbucks in Seattle's Madison Park neighborhood before quitting in late 2002 because "he became dissatisfied with a change in direction the company had taken," according to documents filed in his federal case. Months later, he was robbing banks to pay for his rent and other expenses, including his "precious dogs."

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Snake missing for a month found on Boston subway

BOSTON (AP)—Transit officials say a 3-foot-long boa constrictor that slithered away from its owner on a Boston subway car a month ago has been found in an adjoining car. A commuter spotted Penelope the snake on Thursday and alerted a train attendant at a Red Line station. Transit authority officials took the train out of service to search it. Train attendant Sharon Lynch—a snake owner herself—caught it. Penelope's owner, 30-year-old Melissa Moorhouse of Allston, had traveled around with the snake around her neck and lost it between two stations Jan. 6. She's thrilled to have her pet back and says she'll pay more attention the next time she takes Penelope out in public.

Maine biologists nab owl taking heads off chickens

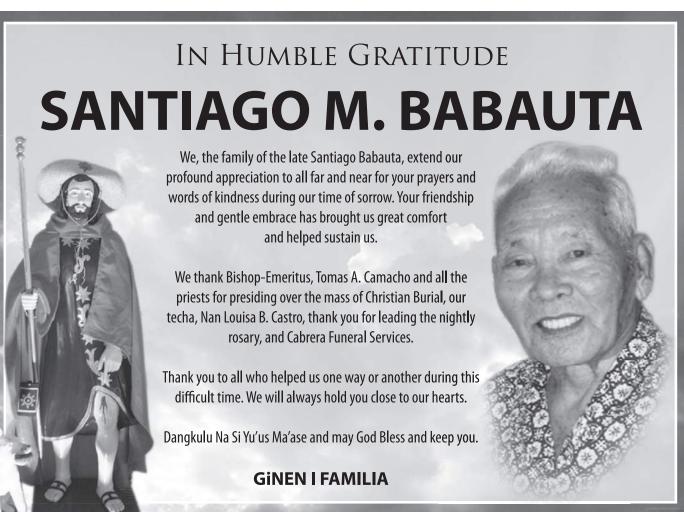
BETHEL, **Maine** (AP)—A Maine barred owl was caught inside a barn where it had been decapitating one chicken a day and flying off with the heads. The Sun Journal newspaper reports that the owl killed five or six chickens. The owl was captured Sunday and has been taken to a wildlife rehabilitation center. Wildlife biologist Judy Camuso says owls are having a tough time finding food this winter and the owl was trying to survive. She says it was near death. Camuso says chickens are too big for owls to carry off and owls are notorious for eating heads. She says many animals that owls live on, such as squirrels and voles, live under the snow.

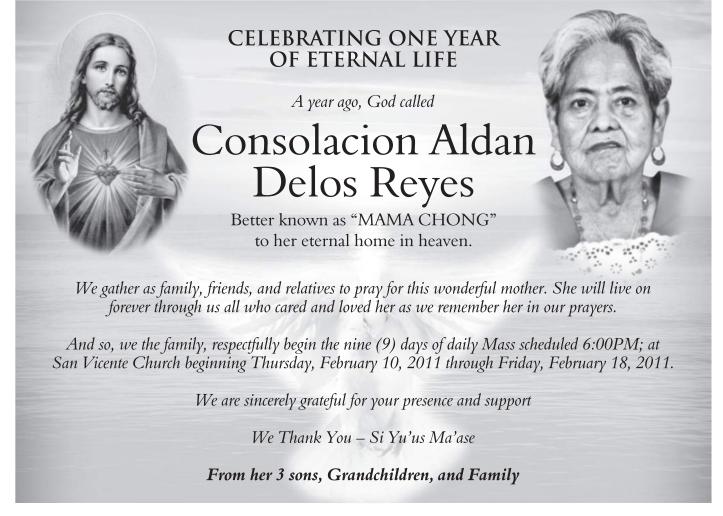
Police: Woman allegedly hit man with frozen steak

HOUMA, La. (AP)—Police in the southern Louisiana city of Houma say a woman upset over her lack of freezer space allegedly hit her boyfriend in the face with a frozen beefsteak. Police told The Courier newspaper that 47-year-old Edith Tassin - also known as Edith Verdin - was booked with aggravated battery against 51-yearold Jerry Voisin. Authorities say she has since been released on bond. Police say Voisin called police on Sunday evening and told them Tassin was trying to cool a mixed drink and became upset when it woudn't fit in the freezer. Police say Voisin was bleeding from the right side of his face when officers arrived.

Surf and turf: Dead cow washes up on Seattle shore

SEATTLE (AP)—Authorities in Seattle say bovine met the shoreline when beachfront residents found the body of a 400-pound cow washed up by the surf. Seattle Animal Shelter enforcement supervisor Ann Graves says animal control officers received a report Thursday that the carcass of an adult cow had beached in West Seattle. The tide later moved it in front of a home. A Seattle Police Department Harbor Patrol vessel towed the cow to a boat ramp Saturday, where it was loaded onto a rendering truck. Graves say it had no ear tag or other identification. It's not clear how it got in the water. Graves say it could have been dumped by owners after it died naturally.





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Science & Technology

HP shows first webOS tablet computer, the TouchPad

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)— Hewlett-Packard Co. unveiled its first tablet computer that uses smart phone pioneer Palm's technology on Wednesday—a skinny black gadget that the companies believe will help them catch up with Apple Inc.'s immensely popular iPad.

Jon Rubinstein, head of HP's Palm unit, showed off the TouchPad at a media event in San Francisco. It will run the same webOS operating software as Palm's Pre and Pixi smart phones.

"Today marks an important new beginning," Rubinstein said as he prepared to introduce the tablet and two new smart phones that will also use webOS, a business-geared version of the Pre called the Pre 3 and a tiny Pre-like smart phone called the Veer.



Close up of a Hewlett Packard TouchPad during a Palm and Hewlett Packard announcement in San Francisco, Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2011.

HP also revealed plans to put webOS into future versions of its personal computers—a de- into its machines, but which

cision that lets HP more fully control the software that goes has the potential to disrupt its device will stand out from the cards on top of each other to more than 25-year relationship with Microsoft Corp. HP insists that its relationship with Microsoft is strong.

The TouchPad announcement adds one more tablet to a bevy of devices that have been revealed since Apple launched the iPad last April. Apple wasn't the first to offer a tablet, but it was the first that managed to capture consumers' attention, and a slew of touch-screen tablets were shown off at the International Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas in January as companies large and small try to capitalize on the iPad's success. Forrester Research estimates that 24 million tablets-mainly iPads-will be sold this year in the U.S.

With all this history and effort, HP and Palm hope their pack. The TouchPad includes a 1.3-megapixel camera on its face for video chats and a 9.7inch touch screen. It comes with 16 or 32 gigabytes of storage and a speedy dual-core processor. It weighs nearly the same as Apple Inc.'s iPad and is about as thick.

Like the Pre, the TouchPad includes webOS' multitasking capabilities and the ability to view open apps as "cards" that you can slide across the screen, tap to enlarge or flick to dismiss. You can also stack

group related things-you might put a Web page for a clothing site on top of a to-do list that includes a note to buy a birthday present for a friend, for example.

The device is compatible with HP's wireless printers, and supports Flash video content (something the iPad does not do). And if you have a Pre and someone calls or sends you a text message, both will show up on the TouchPad and you can respond right from the tablet.

Erasing data from semifunctioning computer

By STEVE ALEXANDER

QUESTION: I want to give away my desktop PC after retrieving some photos and files and then erasing the hard drive. But I don't know how to copy the data; my CD drive is broken and my flash drive is not being accepted by the USB port. Could I use the floppy disk drive? And what's the best way to erase the hard drive?—Tim Quinlan, Ot-

sego, Minn. ANSWER: The easiest solution is to buy a new flash drive and see if it will work in the USB port. A floppy

disk has too little storage capacity to be useful.

If that doesn't work, you could e-mail the information yourself as attachments. But many

e-mail services limit email attachments to 25 megabytes, so if you've got a lot of data that could take a while.

Alternatively, you could buy a few gigabytes of online storage for about \$5 a month. You could upload the data from your old computer to your online storage, then retrieve it with a new services review" at http://tinyurl.com/cbz4eh.)

You also could remove the hard drive from the old computer and convert it into an external hard drive that could be read by a new PC through a USB connection. See http://tinyurl.com/ n8sfmu for instructions.

To erase the old PC's hard drive, download and run a free "secure erase" program at http://www.tinyurl. com/2xoqqw. Click on the "download freeware secure erase utility," which is recommended by the University of California.

Q: I'm running two operating systems—Macintosh OS X and Windows Vista-on my MacBook Pro by using VMWare Fusion (a "virtualization" program that allows them to share the same computer without affecting each other.) After doing some software upgrades, I bought two new Hewlett-Packard printers, an Officejet Pro 8000 and a Photosmart All-In-One D110, both of them wirelessly connected to the MacBook. But now only the Macintosh

operating system can use the

printers; Windows can't

print at all. What can do?—Dennis Hjerpe, Green Valley, Ariz.

A: Your Macintosh operating system was designed for that computer, is getting through

to the printer. But Windows, the stranger to the Mac, can't find its way through the thicket of VMWare. Check out "Troubleshooting printer connection issues in VMware Fusion" at http://www tinyurl.com/4cgevn4, see the section on "Network/ Wireless Printers."

Also make sure you've got the current software drivers for your printers. Find the Windows Vista drivers for HP Photosmart All-In-One D110 at http://www.tinyurl. com/36uksxx and for the HP Officejet Pro 8000 at http:// www.tinyurl.com/4dz4eb8.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; e-mail. steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.

New iPhone, iPad app helps you keep track of sins

your iPad or iPhone bring you closer to God? A new application for the devices aims to help Roman Catholics who haven't been to the confessional booth in a while keep track of their sins, one Commandment at a time.

The \$1.99 "Confession: A Roman Catholic App" can't grant forgiveness—you still need to receive the sacrament from a real, live priest like always. The app's designers and some believers see it as a way to spur Catholics back into the habit of repenting.

"There's a reason we designed it for these mobile devices: We want you to go to confession," said Patrick Leinen, one of the de-

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP)—Can velopers and a co-founder of the ments, with a slew of questions company Little iApps.

> Over the last several decades. American Catholics have been receiving the penitential sacrament less frequently, and many of them may not know how it's done.

> "As somebody who's heard thousands of confessions, there are some people who get so scared coming in that they lose their train of thought and they're not able to remember everything they planned to say," said the Rev. Dan Scheidt, pastor of Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Mishawaka, who advised the developers.

> The text-based app takes the user through the Ten Command-

attached to each, a process known as an examination of conscience, which penitents undergo before confession.

Questions range from "Have I wished evil upon another person?" to "Have I used any method of contraception or artificial birth control in my marriage?" and users can check a box next to each sin they've committed. Once that's done, the app lists the user's sins and displays a written act of contrition, a prayer recited by the penitent. From there, it walks the user through the rest of the steps of confession and even advises when to say "amen."

Melanie Williams is a

17-year-old Catholic who helped test the app after codeveloper Chip Leinen asked for volunteers at the area high school where he runs a youth group.

Williams said she used to freeze up whenever the time came to confess: "I have a horrible time remembering what I want to say when I'm actually in the confessional."

With the app, "when I get to the confessional and I'm able to say all these things, it makes me feel a lot better," she said. "When you're done, an inspirational message pops up. It's so cool. It feels like that's just what I needed to hear at that moment."

How to become an e-mail blaster

By NOAH MATTHEWS

MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Oh, lordie, do I have mixed feeling about a program that helps you send mass e-mails. You know, the kind of e-mail that invites you to buy essentials, like an iPad. But if mass e-mail you must, SendEmails is a free program that will send out targeted messages to e-mail addresses of people you're pretty certain want to read what you have to offer, and even those who will quickly opt-out of getting your breathless prose.

The program will send ev-

erything from simple text files to more complex and visually pleasing web pages. You can use any number of database files to prepare your lists of addresses for your e-mail blast. I used a test list I had prepared in Microsoft Access 2007, and could have sent myself hun-WashingtonCD.net, my website, promoting my latest wares.

In the free and paid versions, you can target recipients geographically, get all kinds of reports and, most important, let recipients opt-out. You

can schedule when the e-mail blasts are sent out, how many recipients actually opened your e-mail and the amount of time they spent reading what you have to offer. If they forward your e-mail to a friend, you'll find that out, too. Sounds like it may be complicated, but it's dreds of e-mail messages from not. Setup is simple enough, too. You provide your website's domain, along with your e-mail address (which gives SendEmails.com a chance to blast you, too). A return e-mail provides a sign-on (your e-mail address) and a password. Tutorials and

an extensive help file got me up and running quickly. The free version lets you

send out 200 e-mail messages a month. It can be downloaded at www.SendEmails.com. Paid versions begin at \$14, for 1,000 e-mails a month, all the way up to \$500 for unlimited e-mails and the kinds of features large companies need.

There I've done it: I've turned myself into an e-mail blaster and told you how you can become one, too.

Other educational, business and utility programs can be found at my website: www.washing-E-mail:washcd@ toned net washingtoncd.net.

Iconic 'Guitar Hero' video game gets the ax

NEW YORK (AP)—These days, guns are more popular than guitars, at least when it comes to video games. The company behind "Guitar Hero" said Wednesday that it is pulling the plug on one of the most influential video game titles of the new century.

Activision Blizzard Inc.,

of Duty" series, is ending the "Guitar Hero" franchise after a run of more than five years. The move follows Viacom Inc.'s decision in November to sell its money-losing unit behind the "Rock Band" video games. Harmonix was sold to an invest-

which also produces the "Call ment firm for an undisclosed sum. Harmonix, incidentally, was behind the first "Guitar Hero" game.

Game industry analysts have long lamented the "weakness in the music genre," as they call it—that is, the inability of game makers to drum up de-

mand for the products after an initial surge in popularity in the mid-2000s. Music games are often more expensive than your typical shoot-em up game because they require guitars, microphones and other musical equipment. While extra songs can be purchased for download, this hasn't been enough to keep the games profitable.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2011 **27**

Life & Style

Lohan pleads not guilty Reagan's favorite quotes, jokes coming in May New York (AP)—Like any good after—the road with GE, and continued throughout his to felony theft charge

Lindsay Lohan pleaded not guilty Wednesday to felony grand theft of a \$2.500 necklace—the most serious charge vet filed against the troubled starlet who has wrestled with drug and alcohol abuse for years.

"You're in a different situation now that a felony has been filed," Superior Court Judge Keith Schwartz scolded Lohan after she entered the plea through her attorney. "Everybody else has to follow the law. You're no different than anyone else. So please, don't push your luck."

Saying it appeared Lohan had violated her probation in a 2007 drunken driving case, Schwartz set bail at \$40,000 and warned that if she was accused of breaking the law while free, he would have her held without bail.

Lohan, 24, posted bail and was released about an hour after the hearing. She spoke little during the arraignment, except to acknowledge her name and that she understood the charge and possible consequences.

Lohan could face up to three years in state prison if eventually convicted of stealing the

FORT WORTH, Texas—

Even though much of Channing

Tatum's career is built on roles

displaying a rugged physicali-

ty—"Fighting," "G.I. Joe: The

Rise of Cobra" and "Step Up,"

among them—the 30-year-old

actor found the shoot for "The

Eagle" in the wilds of Scotland

In addition to the usual bat-

tling and swordplay, he was

hospitalized with burns to his

groin after a crew member ac-

cidentally scalded him with

particularly grueling.

By CARY DARLING

MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

necklace in January from a Venice Beach store.

The "Mean Girls" star has remained in the spotlight throughout her legal problems. Wednesday, she was met by a swarm of photographers and TV cameras when she arrived at the courthouse in a white dress and sunglasses.

Until now, Lohan has struggled with the terms of her probation in the DUI case but has not been charged with other crimes.

The former Disney star has been a courthouse regular since May, when another judge determined she had violated her probation by missing weekly alcohol education classes.

She was sent to jail and rehab after missing a hearing then granted early release from both facilities. Within weeks, however, she failed a drug test and was briefly returned to jail before spending the next three months in rehab.

Lohan's three stints in jail in the past three years have all been shortened by overcrowding and the fact that she could not be held without bail on a misdemeanor.

The jewelry case is not Lohan's

O&A with 'The Eagle' star Channing Tatum

only legal concern. Prosecutors in Riverside County are considering whether to charge the actress with battery for an altercation with a rehab worker at the Betty Ford Center in December.

The worker was fired after giving an on-camera interview to celebrity website TMZ, but district attorney's spokesman John Hall has said the allegation against Lohan was under review.

Schwartz was the third judge in seven months to warn the actress she was facing serious jail time if she broke the law.

Defense attorney Shawn Chapman Holley said Wednesday that Lohan was entering an early disposition program where she could work out a deal to keep the case from going to trial.

Holley also said Lohan has received good reports from her probation officer and had not failed any recent drug screens.

Prosecutor Danette Meyers rejected the idea that Lohan has been well-behaved.

"A good probationer doesn't pick up a new case," Meyers

Reagan

simply a good joke, Ronald Reagan liked to consult his note cards.

Sayings from Abraham Lincoln, Winston Churchill and others, a letter received, or anecdotes read or overheard were duly handwritten down on note cards over the decades, as Reagan rose from an actor-turned spokesman for General Electric Co., then California governor and a two-term president. With his letters and diaries already

best-sellers, Reagan's personal collection of ready-made expressions is being published May 10, part of the ongoing centennial of his birth.

"Ronnie was always collecting quotes and sayings that he might want to include in a speech," Reagan's widow, former first lady Nancy Reagan, said in a statement released Wednesday by HarperCollins. "He started when he was on

dinner speaker, when in need of wisdom or term as governor of California and his years in the White House—even after he left Washington.

He kept these handwritten cards in his desk and used them as he personalized and edited all of his speeches."

Edited by historian Douglas Brinkley, who also worked on Reagan's diaries, the new book cites the famous and the anonymous, the profound and the whimsical. He records Churchill: "Socialism is the philosophy of failure," and the kind of uncredited quip

you might hear at a celebrity roast: "Some people are so indecisive their favorite color is plaid."

According to the book's introduction, the index cards were found last year, in a box marked in pen "RR's desk," at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, Calif. They will be displayed at the library upon the

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STADIUM SEATING

Synopsis

For Friday, February 11th through Thursday, February 17th, 2011 OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

NOW SHOWING



Just Go With It Friday 4:10 7:10 9:50 Saturday

Mon thru Thurs Jenniffer Aniston, Adam Sandler

Gnomeo and Juliet

Saturday

Sanctum

Saturday

Danny (Adam Sandler) has a unique approach to picking up women—in order to break the ice and gain their sympathy, he pretends to be stuck in an unhappy marriage. The instant he brandishes his wedding ring, the deal is all but cinched. But when Danny finally meets a woman (Brooklyn Decker) that he really would want to marry, he abandons



his usual approach for something a bit more subtle

Justin Bieber: Never Say Never 4:05 7:05 9:45 Friday Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:45 Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05 Mon thru Thurs **Justin Bieber**



Mon thru Thurs James McAvoy, Emily Blunt

1:00 4:00 7:00

4:15 7:15 10:00 1:15 4:15 7:15 10:00 1:15 4:15 7:15 4:15 7:15

Sunday Mon thru Thurs Drama • Rated R

Synopsis

Based on true events, producer James Cameron presents this adventure drama concerning a father and son who are trapped in an underwater cave with a team of divers as the group strives to stay alive against all hope. Kokoda's Alister Grierson directs from a script by



1:20 4:20 7:20 9:40 1:20 4:20 7:20 4:20 7:20





The Mechanic

Friday Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:35 1:25 4:25 7:25 Sunday Mon thru Thurs 4:25 7:25 Jason Statham, Ben Foster Action • Rated R

4:25 7:25 9:35



Gulliver's Travels

4:30 7:30 1:30 4:30 7:30 Saturday 1:30 4:30 Sunday Mon thru Thurs Jack Black, Emily Blunt

● NO PASSES ■ NO PASSES OR SUPER SAVERS

The Rite

4:20 7:20 9:40 Saturday Mon thru Thurs Anthony Hopkins Thriller • Rated PG 13



9:45 7:05 Mon thru Thurs 7:05 Natalie Portman, Ashton Kutcher

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hot water. It was just one of the many challenges that he faced during making of "The Eagle." We caught up with him on his recent visit to Dallas.

Q. How did the mishap happen?

A. The quick story is we were in a river, and you can't be in more than 5 or 10 minutes. The guys were coming down with the (hot) water bottle to pour down our wet suits. He didn't get to dilute the water with the river water; as soon as he saw me he wanted to warm me up. Accidents happen. If the guy had been incompetent, I would have blown his teeth down his throat. But he's a hard-working, smart guy. He took care of us



KEITH BERNSTEIN/FOCUS FEATURES/MCT man epic adventure "The Eagle", a Focus Features release directed by Academy Award winner Kevin Macdonald

all day. It was truly an accident. We were all mentally, spiritually and physically exhausted.

Q. What other challenges were there?

A. If you've ever been to Scotland, it's so wet. The rain and the fog every single day. You wake up every day and the crew would put on their wetweather gear. They're covered up to here and here in gloves and everything. Me and Jamie (Bell) are in cheap leather and

are convulsively shaking. (But) it helps put you in the place so you'd know what it would be like. One reason why the Romans could never conquer that part of the world was it was so foreign to them, and they had no idea how to negotiate it.

Q. Could you have survived in A.D. 120?

A. As a soldier, probably not. You had to be some of the toughest things that ever crawled this earth. We had a few fight scenes that lasted more than a minute. Even just fighting for a minute, I was exhausted. I'm a decent athlete. I don't know how these guys would fight for months at a time. ... And just being a civilian was daunting, living without medicine or you catch a common cold, you can die. It's crazy.

Q. You started as a fashion model. Do you find you still have to live that down for movie roles?

A. No, even in the beginning, I still say it definitely helped me more than it hurt me. There were a couple of times when people said they were not seeing any model-looking type guys. Like I think even for "127 Hours," I know that was an issue. But (director Danny Boyle) always wanted James Franco for it. That does come into play, but I don't look on it as a weakness.

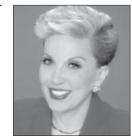
Friends rally to support boy after his attempted suicide

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I'm 13, and one of my best friends attempted suicide. "Greg" always seemed so happy that this has come as a shock to all of us. We're thankful he is alive, but we don't know how to behave around him.

When Greg returns to school, what should we talk about and how can we (his friends) support him?

GIVEN A SECOND CHANCE WEAVER SHOW



DEAR GIVEN: Greg is lucky to have such caring friends as you. When you see him, tell him you're glad to see him and were concerned about him. Do NOT pump him for details. If he wants to talk about what happened, let him do it

As to what to talk about with him, talk about the things you always have and include him in all the activities you have in the past. Knowing his friends care about him is very

If you have further concerns, discuss them with a guidance counselor at school or contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Its phone number is (800) 273-8255 and its website is www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

DEAR ABBY: Before I married my wife, I told her I didn't want a housewife and she agreed she would never be out of work. Two months after tying the knot, she said she got fired from her job, but I think she quit.

She's asking me for money to do things I thought were dumb when we were dating. We dated for three years before getting married and she had the same job the whole time. She has now been out of work for a year.

I feel like I have been tricked. I have never seen her look in the newspaper or search online for work. I think she was a better girlfriend than she is a wife. How do I fix this situation?

UNHAPPILY MARRIED

DEAR UNHAPPILY MARRIED: Remind your wife of the agreement you had before you were married -- that you would be a working couple. Because you feel you are being taken advantage of, offer your wife the option of marriage counseling. However, if that doesn't heal the breach in your relationship, talk to a lawyer.

DEAR ABBY: I have a question regarding grocery store selfscan checkouts. Many grocery stores and supermarkets usually have four machines in one lane, two on each side. If they are all being used, are customers supposed to form one line—and the customer in front goes whenever a machine opens up? Or does each machine have its own individual line?

I, along with most other people, wait in the middle in one lane. But many times someone will walk right past and stand behind someone checking out!

I never see signs posted and no employees ever say anything. Hopefully, you could clear this up for us.

FRUSTRATED SHOPPER IN TENNESSEE

DEAR FRUSTRATED: This is a question that should be addressed to the manager of the grocery store where you are shopping. If most of the customers are forming a single line and someone cuts in, the folks in line usually have no hesitation telling the offender, "The line starts here!" But because there is some confusion, and the self-checkout technology is still new, it makes sense that the management of the store would post a sign telling customers what is preferred.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440. Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in

Ashlee Simpson, Pete Wentz divorcing

lee Simpson and Pete Wentz are falling out of marriage.

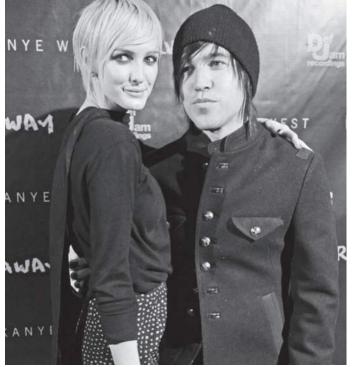
Simpson filed for divorce from the Fall Out Boy bassist on Wednesday in Los Angeles, citing irreconcilable differences, court records show. The singer and actress is seeking physical custody of their 2-year-old son.

"After careful consideration, we have made the difficult decision to file for divorce," the former couple said in a joint statement. "We remain friends and deeply committed and loving parents to our son Bronx, whose happiness and well-being remains our No. 1 priority."

Simpson married Wentz in May 2008 and her court filing does not indicate when the couple broke up.

She is the sister of performer Jessica Simpson and has released three albums and appeared in the reboot of the television series "Melrose Place."

Wentz's band, Fall Out Boy, said in early 2010 that is was



In this Oct. 18, 2010 file photo. Pete Wentz and his wife Ashlee Simpson-Wentz arrive for a screening of "Runaway," in Los Angeles

year-old said at the time that the out of proportion.

taking a break, although the 31- group's breakup had been blown

Spider-Man joins the Fantastic 4

NEW YORK (AP)—With the Fantastic Four whittled to three after last month's death of the Human Torch, Marvel's longtime super group is changing names and adding a familiar face.

Spider-Man, New York's web-slinging guardian, is joining the group newly renamed first issue is due out March 23. The Future Foundation.

Starting in FF No. 1, he'll join with Mr. Fantastic, The Thing and the Invisible Woman in a bid to protect the Marvel universe from new threats, Marvel said Wednesday. The

The Fantastic Four ended with issue No. 588 this month, after the Torch, aka Johnny Storm, died in issue 587. Like the former series, the new FF series is written by Jonathan Hickman and drawn by Steve Epting.

No Facebook friends for Obama girls

WASHINGTON (AP)—Michelle Obama says her daughters aren't on Facebook, and that's the way she likes it.

The first lady says her girls, Sasha, 9, and Malia, 12, have cer-

tain restrictions that other children don't have because of Secret Service security issues. But she also said during an interview on NBC's "Today Show" on Wednesday that she's "not a big fan of young

kids having Facebook."

Even if the girls weren't living in the White House, Mrs. Obama says Facebook is "not something they need." Maybe when they get older, she added.

O'Neals try to mend relationship on TV

WASHINGTON a time when celebrities bare their souls in public every day, love means never having to say you're sorry, unless it's said on a reality show.

Ryan O'Neal and his daughter Tatum are filming such a show for Oprah Winfrey's OWN network with the hope of further mending a relationship that was in tatters for years.

In a recent interview with the Associated Press, O'Neal said the series "was Tatum's idea. She sold it to me." He said, "Frankly, I didn't think that anybody would be interested and so, I just agreed, hoping that it would go away."

It didn't. They've filmed about a half-dozen episodes so far. "She's wonderful to have back in my life," he said.

Their estrangement was at its worst when Tatum wrote about her father's alleged drug abuse and being a bad father in her autobiography "Paper Life" in 2004. The healing began at the funeral of O'Neal's longtime companion, Farrah Fawcett, in 2009.

Ryan O'Neal spoke with the AP last week after donating Fawcett's iconic red bathing suit from the famous 1970s poster to the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.

Tatum O'Neal's ex-husband John McEnroe told the syndicated "The Wendy Williams Show" that he hopes their three grown children won't appear on the series. He says "it's an accident waiting to happen."

O'Neal says the show could be an inspiration. He says if he and Tatum can grow closer, perhaps other estranged families who watch can do the same

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Davey Havok, Justin Guarini join American Idiot'

NEW YORK (AP)—Billie Joe Armstrong will hand over his role in "American Idiot" to another rocker—Davey Havok, lead singer of AFI. Havok joins the cast of the Broadway musical for a two-week engagement as the evil St. Jimmy on March 1. Armstrong's 50-show stand as the character ends Feb. 27. AFI toured with Green Day this summer. Producers also announced Wednesday that former "American Idol" contestant Justin Guarini will join the show starting March 1. Guarini was last seen on Broadway in "Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown." The highoctane show at The St. James Theatre is based on Green Day music and follows three working-class characters as they wrestle with modern life. One joins the Army, one becomes a father and one descends into a drug-fueled life.

Garth Brooks concerts raise \$5M for flood relief

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)— Garth Brooks' December concert series at Nashville's Bridgestone Arena is expected to bring

in \$5 million for flood relief in Tennessee. The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee on Wednesday announced the expected total take from the nine sold-out concerts. The nonprofit already has received \$4.35 million and the money is still coming in. The proceeds will go to The River Fund, a charitable fund within the Community Foundation. The fund already has given out \$1.4 million to Hands on Nashville, the Tennessee Conference of the United Methodist Committee on Relief and the Community Resource Center. Flood victims seeking help should call 211 to be directed to a case manager. In a statement, Brooks said he was honored to have been able to help. He said, "Playing music has never felt better or ever felt more right."

'Puppy Bowl' watched by 9.2 million viewers

NEW YORK (AP)—The Super Bowl wasn't the only thing on TV last weekend to set a ratings record—so did the Puppy Bowl. Animal Planet says 9.2 million viewers watched "Puppy Bowl VII" on Sunday. That's the most to watch the annual program, which has increased in popularity as a cuddly alternative to the Super Bowl. Animal Planet counted its total viewers from the afternoon premiere and the subsequent five re-airings. The two-hour premiere drew an average of 1.7 million viewers, up from 1.1 million last year. The Puppy Bowl consists of little more than dogs running around on a small, indoor football field. They score touchdowns if they cross a goal line with a chew toy. The Super Bowl on Fox drew a record 111 million viewers.

Chinese: US museum never ok a io mummies exhibit

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A diplomatic official says two mummies and other ancient artifacts from China were never approved for display at the Philadelphia museum now embroiled in a dispute over the items. A Chinese embassy spokesman in Washington says the "Secrets of the Silk Road" exhibit was approved only for museums in California and Texas. Chinese officials are not allowing the artifacts to be displayed at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. Instead, the long-planned exhibit opened Saturday with fake mummies and life-size photos of the artifacts. Spokesman Wang Baodong tells The Philadelphia Inquirer that the city "was not a planned stop." He says officials in Beijing are discussing the issue. Museum director Richard Hodges declined comment.

Security guard dies in crash on 'NCIS' set in LA VALENCIA, California (AP)

 Authorities say a security guard on the Los Angeles County set of the CBS television show "NCIS" has died after being struck by a van whose driver apparently blacked out. Sheriff's Sgt. Michael Konecny says the van had just dropped off passengers Wednesday in Valencia when the driver suffered an unspecified medical condition and it accelerated suddenly, striking the guard. The victim, who was not immediately identified, was pronounced dead at a hospital. CBS released a statement offering condolences to the victim's family and friends. The network says production on the show has been suspended while investigators try to determine what caused the accident. "NCIS," a drama about Naval criminal investigators, premiered in 2003.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2011 **29** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis















Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

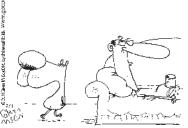
By Glenn McCoy

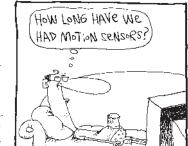












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For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99c per minute, touch tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Taylor Lautner, 19; Kelly Rowland, 30; Jennifer Aniston, 42; Sheryl Crow, 49

Happy Birthday: If you let your emotions get involved in what you need to accomplish this year, you will set yourself back. Compromise and listen to what others suggest, while contributing your own ideas and plans. This is a year when discipline and ability to finish what you start will determine how far you get. Your numbers are 8, 12, 19, 22, 28, 35, 40

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Be careful that you don't overdo it. Focus more on behind the scenes projects, where you can do a really good job and present with confidence. Now is not the time to put quantity over

quality, if you want to advance. TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You need to rest, relax and enjoy. Update your look or style to better suit the things you want to pursue. Travel will turn out well as long as you

don't overspend or overindulge. GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You have everything going for you, so don't let laziness cause you to miss out on an opportunity that can change your life. You have to take advantage of the moment and engage in every opportunity you get to mix and mingle with enlightened people.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Broaden your horizons and you will have a better chance to stay current and on top of what's necessary to keep up with the times and utilize what's available to get ahead. The choice to keep up or fall behind is yours. ����

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Fast-paced and moving upward should be where you put your energy. Show what you have to offer and you will make a connection that allows vou to fully use your talents. Don't stop when there is so much you can do with the right combination of people.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Your practical, insightful and patient way of doing things will attract some heavy-duty people. What you take on now will influence your life both personally and professionally for years to come. It's about versatility and relying on your intuition. ��

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let someone negative about life hold you back. Talk with people who have vision, creative input and can stimulate you to get things done. A conversation you have with someone from your past will help you find an answer you've been looking for. ****OOOO**

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't give in to anyone trying to manipulate your life or your future. Make decisions that will lead you in the most profitable direction emotionally, personally and financially. Don't put your assets on the line.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Popularity will help you reach your goal, so diplomacy and showing interest in what others are doing will play a role in giving you the ultimate decision in the end. Change is upon you and how you handle it will determine

> the outcome. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Put more effort into home and family. Buy

EUGENIA THE LAST WORD

IN ASTROLOGY

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that's required. Learn your lesson from your past losses or from watching someone who ended up alone because they ignored what's important. OOOOO AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll

ing love is not an option; it's your attention

face opposition if you bring up cincum matters with friends, neighbors, relatives or your lover. Listen to the other side of the story. Using emotional blackmail will backfire, leaving you in a no-win situation. 😂

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't get too hung up on trivial matters. Discuss plans, but only with your inner circle of

friends or partners or someone may steal or give away your ideas. Protect your assets and secure your position.

Birthday Baby: You are emotional and a master at manipulation. You are ahead of your time and have stamina and leadership abilities.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizon-tally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell

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HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below

By DAVID

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By Dave Green

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Difficulty Level ★★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Voctorday's CIIDOVII Answer

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Yesterday's Answer: Daily Strip
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30 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2011 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

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For Inquiries,

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

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Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

■ Allads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



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Attorney for Petitioners

IN THE MATTER]

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CIVIL ACTIO
] NO. 10-0631 (
1
] AMENDED
NOTICE OF
] HEARING
]

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition for Adoption, filed by Petitioners Diego D. Mendiola and Angelita P. Mendiola, to adopt Sean Diego William Mendiola, a minor child, was filed in the above-entitled Court.

A hearing on this matter is set on February 28, 2011 at 1:30 pm at the Guma Hustisia Building Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 9th day of February.

Clerk of Court By: Deputy Clerk of Court

Bernadita A. Sablan

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Jazz stung by Bulls and ex-players



and Ronnie Brewer made key plays late to lift the Bulls to a 91-86 win over Utah in the NBA on Wednesday.

Another former Jazz favorite, Carlos Boozer, made his return to Utah in a Bulls uniform and finished with 14 points and six rebounds.

Korver sank a 3-pointer with 2:17 remaining to give the Bulls an 87-83 lead. The Jazz cut it to 87-86 on free throws by Al Jefferson and Andrei Kirilenko, but Rose sank two more free throws to put Chicago ahead by three again with 13 seconds left.

Brewer, drafted by the Jazz in 2006, then stole the ball from Deron Williams and sank two free throws for the final margin.

Jefferson led the Jazz with 28 points.

Spurs 111, Raptors 100

In Toronto, San Antonio's De-Juan Blair matched a career high by scoring 14 of his 28 points in the fourth quarter, helping the NBA-leading San Antonio beat Toronto.

Blair, who also had 11 rebounds, matched the 28 points he scored against Oklahoma City last season.

Antonio George Hill had 18 points as San Antonio made it 15 wins from 17 games.

Andrea Bargnani scored 29 points for the Raptors, who have lost 15 of 16.

Magic 99, 76ers 95

In Philadelphia, Orlando extended its dominance over Philadelphia.

Dwight Howard had 30 points and 17 rebounds, J.J. Redick came off the bench to score 13 points as the Magic made it 14 wins from its past 16 meetings with the Sixers.

Lou Williams got 18 of his 23 in the fourth quarter, nearly rallying the Sixers to a comeback win himself.

The Magic is tied with Atlanta for fourth place in the East, 5 1/2 games behind conferenceleading Boston.

Warriors 116, Nuggets 114

In Oakland, Monta Ellis scored 37 points to lead Golden State over undermanned Denver. Dorell Wright had 23 points, 11 rebounds and eight assists for the Warriors.

Carmelo Anthony finished with 29 points for a Nuggets team playing without injured point guard Chauncey Billups.

Mavericks 102, **Kings 100**

In Sacramento, Dallas' winning streak reached double figures with victory over Sacramento.

Jason Terry scored 22 points



A fan holds up an old Jazz jersey of Chicago Bulls' Carlos Boozer as Boozer walks by during a game against the Utah Jazz during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Salt Lake City, Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2011.

and Jose Barea had 20, including 15 in the fourth quarter for Dallas.

Samuel Dalembert had a season-high 20 points for the Kings, who squandered a fourth-quarter lead for the 18th time this season.

Nets 103, Hornets 101, OT

In Newark, New Jersey, Brook Lopez hit two go-ahead free throws with 24.3 seconds to play in overtime to lift New Jersey over New Orleans.

Sasha Vujacic scored a career-high 25 for the Nets, who hit a season-high 12 3-pointers and ended a three-game skid while inflicting a fourth straight defeat on the Hornets.

New Orleans had three chances to either tie or win the game in the closing seconds but Chris Paul turned the ball over with 19 seconds left and Willie Green missed a jumper with about 5 seconds to go.

Kris Humphries got the rebound after the Green miss and was fouled but he missed two free throws, giving New Orleans one final chance, and it went to Paul. His 3-point attempt at the buzzer went halfway down and came out.

David West led the Hornets with 32 points and 15 rebounds.

Clippers 116, Knicks 108

In New York, Los Angeles won its first road game in eight attempts by beating New York.

Randy Foye scored 17 of his 24 points in the fourth quarter and Blake Griffin added 21 for the Clippers, who had far more energy than the Knicks, building a 20-point lead in the third quarter and holding on thanks to some big plays by Foye.

Amare Stoudemire scored 23 points for the Knicks.

Pacers 104, **Bobcats 103**

In Indianapolis, Josh McRoberts' tip-in gave Indiana the match-winning lead as the Pacers edged Charlotte.

Roy Hibbert scored 29 points while Danny Granger had 25 points for Indiana, which won for the fifth time in six games since Frank Vogel took over as coach in to replace Jim O'Brien a week and a half ago.

Stephen Jackson had 27 for the Bobcats. He drew contact as he went up for a 30-foot attempt in the final second, but no foul was called.

Wizards 100, Bucks 85

In Washington, the hosts broke an eight-game losing streak by downing Milwaukee.

Nick Young scored a flashy 26 points, including a flying one-handed dunk, and got 11 of those in a 16-4 early third-quarter run that put the Wizards up by 20 points.

JaVale McGee had 16 points and 17 rebounds for Washington.

Brandon Jennings scored 20 points to lead the Bucks, who have lost five of six and fell 2 1/2 games behind the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

Pistons 103. **Cavaliers 94**

In Cleveland, the home team lost to Detroit to set another ignominious record; the longest losing streak in U.S. professional team sport.

Cleveland's losing streak ter that comes a home game Cavs get off the mat. reached 26, matching the skid set by the NFL's Tampa Bay Buccaneers in 1976-77.

The Cavaliers will take sole possession of that unwanted record unless they can beat the Los Angeles Clippers next. Afagainst the Washington Wizards, who haven't won on the road all season.

Rodney Stuckey scored 22 to pace the Pistons, who didn't want to be remembered as the team that let the

Cleveland trailed by 12 points at halftime, and although they pulled within three in the third, they fell apart early in the fourth. Only some late baskets when the game was effectively over made the score respectable.

Poor shooting doesn't worry Rubio

(AP)—The numbers don't lie—Ricky Rubio is struggling with his shot.

The Spaniard is shooting just 20 percent from beyond the 3-point line in the Euroleague this season, a stat that has concerned fans of the Minnesota Timberwolves, the team that used a first-round draft pick in 2009 to claim him.

As for Rubio himself, he's not sweating it.

"Sometimes it goes in, sometimes it doesn't," Rubio told The Associated Press after a recent 80-56 win over Roma Lottomatica. "I'm not worried. You have to keep shooting and believing in yourself."

Rubio is averaging only about six points per game, but he is also doing what he does best-finding passing angles few others see and creating offense.

Still, theories abound why Rubio's shot has dropped off.

Some argue it is from lack of confidence after a disappointing world championships, where defending champion Spain finished sixth. Others say he simply needs to work on his technique. And then there's the fact the 3-point line has been moved out to 6.75 meters (22 feet) this season.

While Rubio has never been known for his shooting touch, he has made a big impact since his Spanish league debut at 14, including helping Spain to a silver medal at the 2008 Olympics and winning the 2009 European Championship. Then came Barcelona's Euroleague victory last season.

"I consider myself a player who does not score a lot because shooting is not my strong suit," Rubio told The Associated Press in a separate interview. "So from very young I had to look for other ways to help my team, like giving assists and defending, and those were two things I have focused on intensely."

Rubio fits the mold of Jason Kidd, a floor general who is at his best in the open court. Against Roma, Rubio showed just how to dominate a game without taking a single shot.

While Rubio was troubled by Roma point guard Darius Washington in the first half, he recovered through defense with two steals, another turnover and a pair of push out to a 17-point lead in the third quarter.

While Rubio excelled as a playmaker, his man-to-man defense and shooting—he was 0-for-2—need improvement. Rubio said he's working on leg strength and speed to play better defense and become more of a scoring threat.

According to Barcelona coach Xavi Pascual, Rubio is steadily progressing.

"(Rubio) will experience an important jump in his game when he stabilizes his scoring. He will (then) become one of the best to ever play the game," said Pascual, who was hopeful Rubio wouldn't sacrifice his best qualities in search of more points. "He cannot lose his identity as a player based on defense and passing."

A move to the NBA could be just what Rubio needs to realize his potential. Scouts say that, despite a common stereotype in the United States that European players are "soft," the Euroleague is actually much more rugged than the American pro game.

"Here, in Europe, we do everything as a team," said Pete Mickeal, a former Cincinnati standout and Rubio's teammate at Barcelona. "There (in the NBA) he is going have a lot of individual one-on-one workouts and he is going to be great at that."

Guards have much more freedom to operate in the NBA, where the league has cracked down on hand-checking and contact on the perimeter.

Milwaukee Bucks guard Brandon Jennings, for example, struggled to fit in when he played for Roma in the 2008-09 season before moving to the NBA. He scored just 7.6 points per game, playing an average of 20 minutes of the Euroleague's 40-minute games, which are eight minutes shorter than the NBA game. But Jennings quickly found his place with the Bucks and has averaged 15 points in 32 minutes over the past two seasons.

While Rubio is pass-first point guard, he still gets more than six points a game in the Euroleague with just about the same playing time as Jennings had.

The Timberwolves organization doesn't appear to be concerned about Rubio's shoot-

BARCELONA, Spain assists that helped Barcelona ing struggles. President David Kahn has said many times that the 20-year-old needs time to develop his game and that his stay in Europe would help prepare him for the NBA. Kahn is optimistic Rubio will come over to join their team next season, and the Wolves sorely need him.

> Veteran Luke Ridnour was signed to a four-year deal this summer as a free agent with the idea that he would be the steady veteran off the bench to support second-year starter Jonny Flynn and, eventually, Rubio. But was thrust into a starting role with Flynn missing the first two months of the season with hip surgery and looking uncomfortable on the court since his return.

Rubio's strengths would fit into Timberwolves coach Kurt Rambis' system, which requires the point guard to run the offense more than be a scorer. That kind of role should reduce the pressure on Rubio as he eases into the NBA life in a new country.

"We'll have to see if Ricky's going to come over and how much he can help," Timberwolves owner Glen Taylor said recently. "I don't think that's an immediate answer. That's more a part of the long-term solution, but we're eager to see him over here."

Rubio told the AP that he liked the changes the Timberwolves made in the past offseason "opting for young players" and "a project to grow with." Kevin Love earned his first All-Star appearance this season, Michael Beasley has shown flashes of becoming a dynamic offensive player and the Wolves are also very high on the potential of rookie shooting guard Wes Johnson.

But whether Rubio will join Minnesota is still in doubt.

Rubio has said he will not risk missing a season if there is an NBA lockout and he has not ruled out staying at Barcelona next season. Rubio has also said he wants to join a winning team, with Minnesota last in the Northwest Division.

"The truth is that I want to go to a team where we can win," Rubio said. "Maybe we won't have as much pressure in Minnesota to start winning right away and then I can evolve without the pressure. We will have to see."

McCarthy believes Packers will be more talented



GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP)—Packers coach Mike McCarthy had one final chance Wednesday to go

over an injury report, providing a fitting end to Green Bay's championship season.

Cornerback Charles Woodson (broken collarbone) won't need surgery, wide receiver Jordy Nelson (left knee) played through his injury, linebacker A.J. Hawk (wrist) needs an arthroscopic procedure, and wide receiver Donald Driver (ankle) would be out if Green Bay had to play another game.

Add those to the 16 other Packers on injured reserve and McCarthy believes his next team will certainly be more talented coming into training camp. That doesn't mean Green Bay's title defense will be any easier.

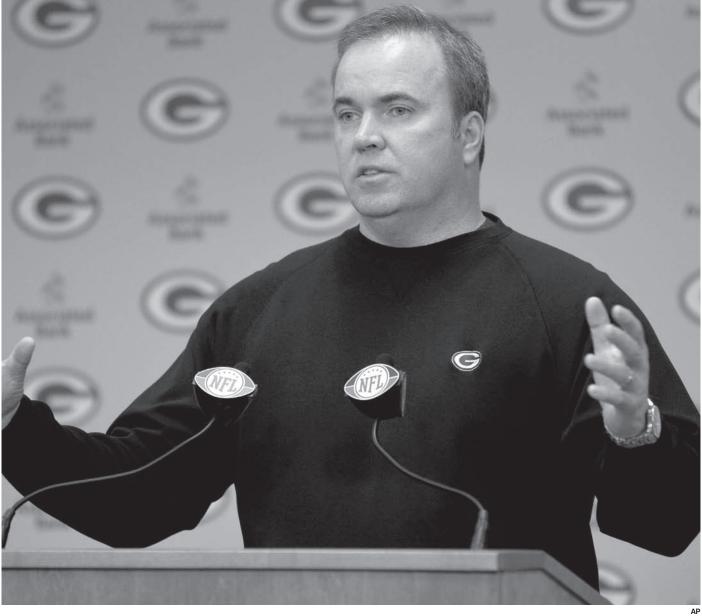
"The most important thing is we need to be the best football team next year. We can be maybe the most talented and best football team. But sometimes the most talented team doesn't win," McCarthy said. "We have to make sure we're the best football team, that everybody's doing their role, doing what they're supposed to be doing at the level they're supposed to be doing it.

"Because that was a great experience to watch this group of men pull together and fight through the adversity that they needed to, and play their best football when it counted."

Now, McCarthy said the next lesson the Packers need to learn is how to deal with success after the franchise's 13th NFL championship and fourth Super Bowl with a 31-25 win over Pittsburgh on Sunday.

"It's here, it's right here, it'll start with our whole organization, top to bottom," the coach said. "Handling success, to me, is the biggest challenge in this business.

That's one of the reasons why defending titles successfully has been so rare.



Green Bay Packers head coach Mike McCarthy smiles as he answers a question from the media during a press conference Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2011, in Green Bay, Wis.

New England last repeated as champion six years ago, and no team from the NFC has even made two consecutive Super Bowls since the Packers did it in 1997 and 1998.

McCarthy's life is already changing in ways big and small. His daily cup of Starbucks coffee had "congratulations" on it Wednesday morning, and he said it'll take him at least a month to respond to everyone who reached out to him.

He's still thrilled with his chat with President Barack Obama on Monday ("He started with, 'This is a tough phone call for a Bears fan to make"") and is honored that a street will be named after him somewhere near Lambeau Field.

Both McCarthy and general manager Ted Thompson are in line for contract extensions before their current deals end in 2012. McCarthy declined to directly address his own contract negotiations or which teams contacted the Packers for permission to talk to his assistants.

"Continuity is important, but change happens in this business," McCarthy said. "Time will answer those questions."

The other uncertainty comes

after the collective bargaining agreement expires March 3.

The end of the labor deal and a potential lockout could mess up everyone's offseason plans. McCarthy said it also affects negotiations to extend assistant coaches, and even when the Packers might be able to visit the White House because it's usually attached to an organized team activity or a minicamp.

He also sounded less than thrilled about a proposed 18game schedule.

"I know what the company line is, but you're talking to a guy that barely made it through 16, so you can figure that one out for yourself," he said.

No matter when the season begins or how long it might be, Green Bay will have its core in place, led by Super Bowl MVP Aaron Rodgers and his receivers. Running back Ryan Grant and tight end Jermichael Finley return from injured reserve.

The Packers are also wellequipped to run defensive coordinator Dom Capers' attacking 3-4 scheme with young stars cornerback Tramon Williams, nose tackle B.J. Raji and linebacker Clay Matthews continuing their development.

The abundance of talent also taught McCarthy a lesson about himself.

He said he learned to handle his own ego this season by delegating leadership in a variety of ways, including letting the captains talk before games late in the season after getting the idea driving home one day after practice.

"It was risky for the head coach to give up the final message to his team before he goes out onto the field," McCarthy said. "I am not perfect, but the one thing I think the players truly know that they get from me, they get the truth, and it comes from the heart."

NFL BRIEFS

Munchak hires Matthews to coach offensive line

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)-New Tennessee coach Mike Munchak has hired his friend and former teammate, Hall of Fame lineman Bruce Matthews, to coach the Titans' offensive line. Matthews was selected in the first round of the 1983 NFL Draft by the then-Houston Oilers and went on to play 19 seasons for the franchise, earning 14 consecutive Pro Bowl selections and nine first-team All-Pro honors. He played all five positions on the offensive line and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2007. He spent the last two seasons as an offensive assistant for the Houston Texans and replaces Munchak, who was hired as Jeff Fisher's successor on Monday. Matthews says working for Tennessee with Munchak is an opportunity of a lifetime for him.

Browns cut Shaun Rogers, five others

CLEVELAND (AP)—The Cleveland Browns are cleaning house. On Wednesday, the team terminated the contracts of some big-name players, including their biggest player—enormous nose tackle Shaun Rogers. In addition, the Browns, who are rebuilding once again under new coach Pat Shurmur, also released veteran linebackers Eric Barton and David Bowens, defensive end Kenyon Coleman, tight end Robert Royal and right offensive tackle John St. Clair. All six of the players are over age 30, and the moves will save the Browns nearly \$19 million in base salaries. The 350-pound-plus Rogers, a three-time Pro Bowl selection, was slowed by injuries and played sparingly last season. He was due to make \$5.5 million in 2011 with a \$500,000 roster bonus. The Browns announced the cuts in a oneparagraph statement, and moments later Barton expressed his disappointment at being let go on his Twitter account.

Suit filed in Dallas over Super Bowl seat problems

DALLAS (AP)—Ticket-hold- 1,250 temporary seats were 1,000 people. sidered bad views of the Super Bowl have filed a class-action lawsuit against the NFL, the Dallas Cowboys and team owner Jerry Jones.

The federal lawsuit filed Tuesday in Dallas—just two days after the big game—alleges breach of contract, fraud and deceptive sales practices on behalf of people who ended up watching the game on TV at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, or had seats the lawsuit labeled "illegitimate."

The NFL had announced just hours before the Green Bay Packers played the Pittsburgh Steelers on Sunday that about

ing football fans who ended up deemed unsafe, and the league with no seats or what they con-scrambled to find new seats for about 850 people. The remaining 400 were forced to watch from standing-room locations around the stadium.

One plaintiff is a Steelers fan from Pennsylvania who was among the 400 with a ticket but no seat. The other is a Cowboys season ticket holder who claims many of Jones' biggest-spending fans were stuck in metal folding chairs without a view of the stadium's giant video board.

Spokesmen for the Cowboys and the NFL had no comment Wednesday.

Los Angeles-based attorney Michael J. Avenatti said he expects the suit to cover about

"No one is attempting to get rich from this," he said. "People" season ticket holder in the laware merely interested in being compensated for what happened (at the stadium) and the cost that goes with that."

Avenatti said he's a Cowboys season ticket holder who attended Sunday's game. He said he wasn't one of the fans affected by the seating issues but heard plenty of complaints.

"People at the game were disgusted, but it doesn't take long to be disgusted with a situation like this," he said.

Avenatti said Steve Simms, the Steelers fan named in the lawsuit, was so put off by trying to watch the game from standing-room areas that he left

at halftime.

Mike Dolabi, the Cowboys suit, is among a group called "Founders" who paid \$100,000 per seat just for the right to buy tickets. Those so-called personal seat licenses resulted in more than \$100 million in revenue for Jones, according to the lawsuit, which seeks \$5 million in damages.

Some of those fans were in temporary seats under overhangs and couldn't see the giant video board above the field, "which defendant Jones and the Cowboys routinely claim is one of the most unique and best features of Cowboys Stadium," the lawsuit said. They could see the field, and extra TVs were installed in those areas.

"You were effectively in a bat cave," Avenatti said. "You don't take your 400 best customers and treat them like that."

The lawsuit alleges the Cowboys have offered no compensation to their ticket holders for "their obstructed and illegitimate seats."

The NFL has said the roughly 400 fans without seats have two options. The first is a ticket to next year's Super Bowl and a cash payment of \$2,400, three times the face value of the ticket. The second is a ticket to any future Super Bowl, along with round-trip airfare and hotel accommodations.

The Packers beat the Steelers 31-25 in the Super Bowl.

Hamilton contract talks with Rangers progressing



ARLING-TON, Texas (AP)— AL MVP

Josh Hamilton says contract talks with the Texas Rangers are "moving in the right direction" and that a two-year deal is possible.

While Hamilton and the AL champions have to settle his 2011 contract to avoid a salary arbitration hearing next week, a two-year deal would also cover Hamilton's other remaining arbitration season in 2012.

"The talks, they've obviously gotten better," Hamilton said Monday. "Like I've said before, it's not just about me and what I'm going to get, but it's about the guys coming after me and doing the same things for those guys that the guys in front of me did. The biggest thing is just being fair."

Hamilton said the team recently approached his agent, Mike Moye, about the possibility of a deal to cover his last two arbitration-eligible seasons. Hamilton's first chance to be-

come a free agent won't come until after the 2012 season.

General manager Jon Daniels described recent conversations with Moye as "productive, positive."

"It'd be a little premature for me to tell you that we'll definitely get a deal done, but I feel like it's moving in that direction," Daniels said. "We'd surely prefer to avoid the arbitration process. I know Josh and his family and Mike would as well. That's kind of been the backdrop, and in the spirit of cooperation, we're trying to get something done."

If Hamilton and the Rangers can't at least settle on a 2011 contract, a salary arbitration hearing is scheduled next Monday in Phoenix. Hamilton has asked for \$12 million, \$3.3 million more than Texas offered.

Hamilton made \$3.25 million last season, when he hit a major league-leading .359 with 32 homers and 100 RBIs despite missing most of the final month of the regular season with broken ribs. He returned for the last weekend of the regular season and the playoffs.

"The main focus right now

is one year," the 29-year-old Hamilton said. "If two years get done, that's great. It's a plus and it takes a little stress off with this whole situation not having to happen next year."

The three-time All-Star has a .311 career average with 93 homers and 331 RBIs in 468 major league games, an incredible comeback for the former No. 1 overall draft pick whose career was derailed by his well-documented cocaine and alcohol addictions after he got hurt in the minors. He made his major league debut with Cincinnati in 2007, and he flourished after being traded to Texas.

Hamilton spent six days in the hospital last month with pneumonia and lost 10 pounds during his illness.

After working out with several teammates Monday, Hamilton said he was feeling "good, very good" and was back to 233 pounds after regaining his lost weight. He planned to put on a few more pounds before spring training.

"The bad weather we had put a little damper on the workouts. I did a little Chuck Norris action, Total Gym at home, and stationary bike," Hamilton said. "Went today and worked out with the guys, so it was good."

MLB BRIEFS

Brewers, Marcum agree on \$3.95M, 1-year deal

MILWAUKEE (AP)—The Milwaukee Brewers and righthander Shaun Marcum agreed to a \$3.95 million, one-year contract late Wednesday night on the eve of a scheduled salary arbitration hearing. The deal fell just short of the midpoint between Marcum's \$5 million request and Milwaukee's \$3 million offer. The 29-year-old, who made \$850,000 last year, can make an additional \$100,000 in performance bonuses. Marcum went 13-8 with a 3.64 ERA and 195 1-3 innings last season after returning from elbow ligamentreplacement surgery. Milwaukee traded top hitting prospect Brett Lawrie to Toronto in December to get Marcum in an effort to bolster a rotation that includes Zack Greinke and Yovani Gallardo. Second baseman Rickie Weeks is the only remaining Brewer in arbitration.

Reyes, Red Sox agree to minor league deal

BOSTON (AP)—The Boston Red Sox have agreed to a minor league contract with left-handed reliever Dennys Reyes. The deal includes an invitation to big league spring training, team spokeswoman Pam Ganley said Tuesday. Reyes was 3-1 with a 3.55 ERA in 59 appearances last year with the St. Louis Cardinals, his 10th major league team. The 33-year-old has pitched in at least 50 games in each of the past five seasons and is 35-35 with a 4.18 ERA in 669 career outings. Boston has been trying to improve its bullpen, which had the AL's third worst ERA last year. The Red Sox have added right-handers Bobby Jenks, Dan Wheeler and Matt Albers and re-signed lefty Hideki Okajima.

AP source: Minor leaguer suspended over syringe

NEW YORK (AP)—A minor league catcher with the Washington Nationals has been suspended 25 games because he was found in possession of an unauthorized syringe, a person familiar with the penalty told The Associated Press on Tuesday. The ban for Hector Taveras was announced by Major League Baseball under the minor league drug program, but the reason for the suspension was not. The person who divulged it spoke on the condition of anonymity because that detail wasn't made public.

Young requests trade from Rangers, who are willing

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Michael Young has asked the Texas Rangers to trade him, a request the AL champions are willing to oblige for their career hits leader who is unhappy about his changing role.

General manager Jon Daniels, however, said "nothing is imminent" and that the Rangers would trade Young only if they could improve the team in doing so.

After signing free agent third baseman Adrian Beltre last month, the Rangers said Young would become the primary designated hitter and serve in a utility role where he could fill in at every infield position. Young, the team's longest-tenured player after 10 seasons, initially agreed to that plan.

"Our first choice would be to continue with our offseason plan and go to camp with Michael and him playing pivotal role on the club," Daniels said Monday. "He's changed his mind, had a change of heart about that role, and if we can accommodate his request, and in doing so upgrade the club, we certainly would like to do that."

What could make that difficult is that Young is owed \$46 million over the remaining three seasons in contract—\$15 million in each of the next two seasons and \$16 million in 2013. Plus, there are only eight teams not on his no-trade list.

Team president Nolan Ryan, who spoke to Young twice over the last few days, said that list

Behind Johndel's Supermarket

Reserved Parking in Rea

Next to Subway

hasn't expanded at this point.

Daniels said he has already been approached by some clubs not on Young's list, though he wouldn't get into specifics about who they were.

"It certainly hasn't gotten to a point where we've presented Michael with anything because he's been clear on his feelings about that," Daniels said.

The 34-year-old Young has spent his entire major league career with Texas, and played in 1,508 regular season games before finally making it to the playoffs last season. A .300 career hitter whose 1,848 hits are the most in Rangers history, he also had five consecutive 200-hit season (2003-07) and led the AL with a .331 average in 2005.



Pacquiao

Pacman drops WBC super welter crown

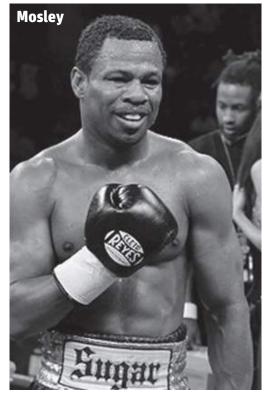


Pound-forpound king Manny Pacquiao will relinquish his

super welterweight crown as a prelude to his clash against Shane Mosley in May and as a formal sign that the ring icon will no longer risk fighting above the welterweight ranks.

Pacquiao's adviser Michael Koncz said that the pound-forpound king reached the decision in response to a query from WBC president Jose Sulaiman asking the Filipino whether he intended to defend his 154 pound belt or not.

Sulaiman posed the question after Top Rank announced that Pacquiao's next fight would be against Mosley and it would be for the WBO welterweight title the Pacman won against Cotto in 2009.



Pacquiao and Mosley square Pacquiao pulverized Antonio off at the MGM Grand in Las Margarito to win the 154 pound title by a lopsided 12-round de-

cision at the Dallas Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas last Nov. 13, but Koncz said the Fil-

"Those girls are very fast and

strong athletes. Both of them

were in the Top 10 in Maui in

last year's XTERRA World. It

will be a good race for the wom-

en's side and I think it is worth

to watch because a lot of girls

der) will join this year's race.

Matches in the second and final weekend of the Tennis Academy of Guam-led tournament were rain delayed and participants, particular CNMI netters, had to play shortened games. Instead of a race-toeight game, the Commonwealth's junior players suited up in a race-to-six match with-

On the issue of outstanding

sanction fees broken down

as \$30,000 for the rematch against Juan Manuel Mar-

quez on March 15, 2008 and

the \$50,000 due on the fight against Oscar De La Hoya on

Dec. 6, 2008, Koncz said "I

am going to send an e-mail

to Top Rank instructing them

to pay \$50,000 for the De La

Hoya fight because that was

For the Marquez rematch

sanction fee, Koncz claimed

"Top Rank would deduct what-

ever the sanction fee was from

Manny's purse and pay it di-

rectly without any consulta-

tion, without any guidance. So

if there is or isn't a percent due

that's a problem between Top

Rank and the WBC.'

"We should honor it."

[the] agreement."

ipino's team learned a valuable

Margarito entered the ring

with a 17-pound advantage

and managed to inflict damage

"We learned from experience

in the Margarito fight that giving

away 10 to 15 pounds during

fight night is very detrimental

to the safety of Manny," Koncz

told the Inquirer. "Because of

those basic concerns we have

no intention for Manny to fight

at 154. From this day forward

the maximum weight would be

Koncz said he would send a

"thank [you] letter" stating how

much they "appreciate what the

WBC has done and that Manny

wants to free the belt so that

others have the opportunity to

then handed the CNMI its fifth

championship after claiming the

Fourteen CNMI junior tennis players joined the second

weekend of the tournament,

which ran on Feb. 5 and 6.

Also on the list were Clayton

Izuka, S.H. Lee, Gio Hur, Alex

Park, Chris Park, Luther Liza-

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

EASTERN CONFERENCE

NBA STANDINGS

W L Pct GB

24 28 .462 14 1/2

38 13 .745 -26 25 .510 12

16 37 .302 23

14 39 .264 25

38 14 .731

33 19 .635 5

34 20 .630 5

22 30 .423 16

35 16 .686 -

20 31 .392 15

37 15 .712 7

32 22 .593 13

25 29 .463 20

31 23 .574 3 1/2

28 24 538 51/2

13 39 .250 20 1/2

30 23 .566 4

WESTERN CONFERENCE

44 8

Southwest Division

14 37 .275 23 1/2

22 28 .440 12 1/2

ma, and Bob Kim.

Atlantic Division

Southeast Division

Boston

New York Philadelphia

New Jersey

Toronto

Miami

Atlanta

Orlando

Charlotte

Chicago

Milwaukee Detroit

San Antonio

New Orleans

Memphis

Minnesota

Dallas

Indiana

Washington

Central Division

boys U16 doubles crown.

proudly wear the WBC belt."

CNMI

From Page 36

147 lb (welterweight)."

lesson from the bout.

on Pacquiao.

two-weekend event The aimed at promoting sportsmanship and camaraderie between Guam and CNMI players.

out ads.



From Page 36

EASY

From Page 36

those occasions.

swim. There are days when we do all races," Carey said.

The CNMI's top bet in XTERRA Saipan Championship next month added she is training with Japanese Olym-

to thread the needle to pull off

a win. Mobil's first three victo-

ries were cliffhangers with the

Marvin Deocares-coached team

winning by four points or less in

Against the IT&E Funda-

mentalists, Mobil's guards wisely

played outside, avoiding their much

taller foes. Jun Estolas canned five

triples and finished with a game-

high 21 points. Mobil hit eight

triples in the match, which got out

of IT&E Fundamentalists' hands

After staying close to Mobil in

the opening quarter, 13-17, IT&E

Fundamentalists only totaled sev-

en points off three field goals and

pian Niwata in Gold Coast.

Vegas on May 7.

"I am with Kiyomi Niwata who had been to the Olympics three times. She is trying to go to London Olympics in 2012. Her training is crazy and hard but she training everyday in front of me. She is awesome and her mental toughness is really admirable. I want to cheer for

one free throw to fall behind by

Mobil took a 41-20 halftime

lead behind the trio of guards

Estolas, Bon Tamayo, and Ron

Gamboa. Estolas made five

points, Tamayo added seven,

Estolas started the second half

with a triple and despite IT&E

Fundamentalists' comeback bid

in the third period, Mobil hung

on to a double-digit lead, 55-45,

IT&E Fundamentalists failed

to overhaul Mobil's lead in the

fourth when the former was lim-

ited to three field goals, anew in

In the second game, NMC

Proa broke away in the third pe-

riod to hand Ol'Aces their third

entering the fourth canto.

the final canto.

straight loss.

while Gamboa tallied eight.

21 big points.

her when she goes to London," said Carey, who will return to Saipan on Feb. 17, more than three weeks before XTERRA Saipan kicks off.

The 2011 XTERRA Saipan Championship will hit the road on March 12 and Carey is excited that two more female pros (Carina Wasle and Suzie Sny-

Proa was up by only six at the

break, 35-29, when Pete Iguel

and Jack Lizama teamed up

in the team's third-quarter at-

tack. The duo combined for 14

points, lifting NMC to a 57-39

advantage. The Ol'Aces never

recovered from thereon, as they

failed to neutralize Iguel and

Iguel and Lizama top-scored

for the Ol'Aces with 21 markers

each, while Peter Mendiola and

Gino Libuw contributed 15 and

Freddie Pelisamen was the

lone double figure scorer for the

Ol'Aces with 10, as the team

continued to struggle offensively

in their last three games. In their

two other losses, the Ol'Aces

scored 60 (against Konflikt) and

33 points (against IT&E).

Lizama in the fourth canto.

13, respectively.

have a chance to stop Renata (Bucher) this year," Carey said.

First Game Mobil 65 – Estolas 21, Gamboa 12, Tamayo 11, Rabauliman 10, Sharry 6, Gapor 3, De Guzman 2.

IT&E Fundamentalists 52 Wood 19, Fox 8, Petersburg 7, Lee 6, Babauta 5, Cooke 4,

Scoring by quarters: 17-13, 41-20, 55-45, 65-52.

NMC Proa 74 - Iguel 21,

Ol'Aces 57 – Pelisamen 10, Camacho 9, Ogumoro 8, Tumaquip 8, T. Diaz 8, Iginoef 8, Z.

Scoring by quarters: 14-14,

Second Game

Lizama 21, Mendiola 15, Libuw 10, Babauta 4, Palacios 3, Villacrusis 2, A. Barcinas 2.

Diaz 2, Omar 2, Lisua 1.

35-29, 57-39, 74-57.

in the second quarter.

From Page 36

On reacting to his recent draw decision, Fitial replied, "I think I won that fight and I am disappointed it went to the judges' cards, but I have no reason to hang my head. Based on their reaction I think that the crowd agreed with me too. I am just thankful for all of the positive support I've received after fight."

In response to a possible rematch, Fitial said, "Of course I want the rematch, but I have also developed a good relationship with the event organizer in Tokyo. I competed in his event before in 2007 and the experience left an impres-

sion on me because it is for a good cause."

Fitial did not confirm which way he is headed, but did share that he would decide his next move during his month-long training seminar.

The PXC scorecard controversy consists of a number of characters: The Guam Unarmed Combat Commission, referee Tony DeAngelo, and judges Max Demian, Justin Benavente, and Alex Gutierrez.

In the end, the GUCC has taken most of the flack because of the way scorecards were distributed, tallied, and collected during the main event.

According to responses made by Demian, DeAngelo, Gutierrez, and Martinez on Guam's SYRGU.com community forum, Benavente filled out a lone card with no name, while Gutierrez filled out the card designated for Benavente.

The fighters' names were scratched out and rewritten in the wrong color corner on Gutierrez's card; he also did not initial his card after the fight. What's more, when the decision was announced after the fight, the score totals were not announced before the decision unlike in every other fight that went the distance that night. All three judges were also from Guam and formerly affiliated with Martinez's Spike 22 fight team.

After the negative public reaction was received, Guitierrez came out and claimed that if not for a second round penalty on

Fitial for a low groin strike he would have been awarded the majority decision.

Notably, Fitial was not issued a warning for the low blow, unlike on multiple occasions in earlier bouts that evening.

Feeling the heat, DeAngelo lashed back at Gutierrez and the GUCC in general that although he gave Fitial the penalty, in the end, he still believed that Marianas Elite front man deserved the nod

Even Martinez chimed in on SYRGU and expressed disappointment in his performance. He admitted that the decision could have gone either way and went as far as to suggest that his performance was not worthy of retaining the title belt.

Northwest Division Oklahoma City 33 18 .647 -Utah Portland

Pacific Division 36 16 .692 -L.A. Lakers Phoenix Golden State 23 28 .451 12 1/2 L.A. Clippers 20 32 .385 16 Sacramento 12 37 .245 22 1/2

> Yesterday's Games Detroit 103, Cleveland 94 Indiana 104, Charlotte 103 New Jersey 103. New Orleans 101. OT Orlando 99, Philadelphia 95 San Antonio 111, Toronto 100 Washington 100, Milwaukee 85 L.A. Clippers 116, New York 108 Chicago 91, Utah 86 Dallas 102, Sacramento 100

Golden State 116, Denver 114

NBA LEADERS

Scoring

G FG FT PTS AVG 47 450 376 1363 29.0

James, MIA	50	453	347	1320	26.4
Stoudemire, NYK				1314	
,					
Bryant, LAL	52			1322	
Wade, MIA	48	425	319	1211	25.2
Ellis, GOL	50	468	245	1260	25.2
Rose, CHI	49	440	248	1206	24.6
Anthony, DEN	45	379	315	1106	24.6
Gordon, LAC	41	333	242	988	24.1
Martin, HOU	52	352	403	1224	23.5
Nowitzki, DAL	42	352	223	971	23.1
Griffin, LAC	51	441	266	1154	22.6
Westbrook, OKC	51	387	356	1147	22.5
Howard, ORL	51	404	334	1142	22.4
Williams, UTA	49	349	288	1070	21.8
Aldridge, POR	52	445	229	1122	21.6
Love, MIN	52	366	307	1111	21.4
Bargnani, TOR	46	368	186	974	21.2
Granger, IND	48	340	219	1001	20.9
Randolph, MEM	50	405	196	1011	20.2

FG Percentage

	FG FGA PCT				
Hilario, DEN	259	402	.644		
Okafor, NOR	219	369	.593		
A. Johnson, TOR	215	366	.587		
Howard, ORL	404	696	.580		
Horford, ATL	337	592	.569		
Ibaka, OKC	199	352	.565		
Odom, LAL	317	571	.555		
Boozer, CHI	264	482	.548		
Young, PHL	263	483	.545		
Millsap, UTA	357	674	.530		

Rebounds

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVC
Love, MIN	52	247	563	810	15.6
Howard, ORL	51	200	503	703	13.8
Randolph, MEM	50	236	426	662	13.2
Griffin, LAC	51	195	455	650	12.7
Gasol, LAL	52	186	359	545	10.5
Okafor, NOR	49	157	339	496	10.1
Horford, ATL	48	126	350	476	9.9
Chandler, DAL	48	134	325	459	9.6
Odom, LAL	52	124	369	493	9.5
Duncan SAM	51	107	216	172	0.3

Assists

Rondo, BOS	40	496	12.4
Nash, PHX	47	522	11.1
Paul, NOR	53	518	9.8
Williams, UTA	49	466	9.5
Wall, WAS	38	345	9.1
Felton, NYK	50	447	8.9
Calderon, TOR	45	393	8.7
Westbrook, OKC	51	439	8.6
Kidd, DAL	51	426	8.4
Rose, CHI	49	401	8.2

G AST AVG

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Asahi routs foe in Belau softball opener

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Asahi started its campaign in the 2011 Belae Amateur Softball Association Slow-

Pitch League with a bang after demolishing Dial Rent 2 Own, 22-8, last Sunday at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield.

Jason Hayes led Asahi's big win, going 4-for-4 at bat and

making three runs, one double, one triple, two home runs, and six RBIs.

Asahi was ahead by seven after six complete innings, 14-7, when Hayes hit a three-run homer and Kuiich Damian blasted a two-run round-tripper at the top of the seventh inning for a commanding lead.

The Asahi-Dial Rent 2 Own was one of the six games played in the opening day of the Belau league.



Jerry Ayuyu went 4-for-4 in TKK's 19-3 demolition of Go for Broke during the opening of the Belau softball league last Sunday at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield.

Kingz, Fly High share Rocball lead

tied for the lead in the 2011 Rocball High School League, which started last

Two teams are

month at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The Kingz and Fly High shared the early lead in the high school league after posting similar 2-0 slates. Joining them in the six-team field are the Chiefs, Underdogs, Krowners, and Watch Ur Face. The Chiefs, Krowners, and Underdogs are tied for second place after holding identical 1-1 slates. Watch Ur Face is in third place with a 0-2 record.

In its first game, the Kingz juiced out the Chiefs in three sets, 46-39. The Kingz's Billy Utalap was the game's heavy hitter, scoring 14 points off two aces, one xunk, and four kees.

In its second game, the Kingz dropped the third set against Watch Ur Face, preventing the former from posting its second juiced-out win. However, the Kingz still prevailed after defeating Watch Ur Face in overtime, 7-2. The King's Jason Laniyo was the game's heavy hitter, firing 16 points off five kees and two goals.

In other results, Fly High defeated the Underdogs in three sets, 39-30, and then knocked off the Krowners, 49-15. A.J. Aguilar and Ryan Ichihara were the heavy hitters for Fly High.

In the other two games, the Chiefs and Krowners played a seesaw battle. The Krowners won the first set, 17-15. The Chiefs came back in the second set, 17-8, to take a 32-25 lead. In the third set, the Chiefs played with good serves and capitalized on the Krowners penalty serves for a 17-10 win.

In the Underdogs-Watch Ur Face tiff, the opposing teams played an extended match. Watch Ur face won the first two sets, 17-13 and 16-13, while the Underdogs ruled the third set to send the game in overtime. Watch Ur Face still led after three, 43-42, and needed only to win one set to beat the Underdogs. However, the Underdogs took two overtime sets to steal the victory.

Games in the high school league are played every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at the MHS gym from 12:50pm to 1:30pm. (Roselyn B. Monroyo)



Damart Teregeyo is seen here going for a kee for the Kingz, which is currently undefeated in the 2011 Rocball High School League.

Wuzz Up 7, snatched the lead in the second inning behind the two-run hom-

Koror Tigers 5

In the first game, Wuss Up leaned on a six-run bottom of the second inning to grab the lead from Koror Tigers en route to a

A three-run homer from Dustin Dikito at the top of the first gave the Tigers a 3-0 lead. However, Wuzz Up quickly er of Nokie Saralu and two-run single of J.P. Lizama.

Red Torch 6, Peleliu 5 In the second game, Red Torch

edged Peleliu, 6-5.

The game was tied, 5-all, after six complete innings when Red Torch connected

on a one-run single to take the lead. Red Torch kept the advantage and the win when it retired Peleli's first two batter and then left one runner stranded when fourth batter Isea Masao flied out.

AJ Falcons 15, Haga T 10

In the third game, the AJ Falcons

topped Haga T, 15-10.

After leading by only one in four and a half innings, 6-5, the A.J. Falcons pulled away at the bottom of the fifth inning, scoring eight runs. Haga T tried to recover, as it fell behind, 15-5, but came up short, nailing only five runs.

TKK 19, Go for Broke 3

In the fourth game, TKK whipped Go for Broke, 19-3.

Jerry Ayuyu paced TKK with his 4-for-4 performance at bat, one homer, four runs, and four RBIs.

Toi Celis, Julian Camacho, and Manny Sablan also homered in TKK's lopsided win.

Go for Broke scored all its run in the first inning for a 3-2 lead, but went cold in the next four innings.

Auel Auel 15, Hilitai 5

In the last game of the day, Auel Auel downed Hilitai, 15-5.

Auel Auel shut down Hilitai in the first four innings for a 14-0 advantage. Hilitai never recovered from thereon.

Auel Auel drew one homer each from Tom Joab, Eric Dela Cruz, and Mel Aldan.

Coconut Classic kicks off today

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER



The 2011 White Coconut Tennis Classic will start today in three various courts on Saipan.

In the boys U18, two games will be played in the opening day with Rafael Jones taking on Andy Nutting at the Pacific Islands Club court at 4:30pm. Over at the American Memorial Park tennis courts, Daniel Park will face Clay McCullough-Stearns at 1pm. Christian Miller is the fifth player entered in the boys U18 singles and he drew a bye in the first round.

The girls U18 singles will be played next weekend, as only four players—Ilia Corella, Jodel Fernandez, Amy Arenovski, and Theecel Minor—are competing in this event.

The boys U15 singles has the most entries in the junior divi-



Jeff Race, seen here returning a shot near the net during a game in the 2010 Tan Holdings Tennis Classic, is one of the players competing in this weekend's 2011 White Coconut Tennis Classic.

sion with 20 and 10 matches will be played in the opening day at PIC, AMP, and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan courts.

The girls U15 singles drew eight participants and all four opening matches will take place at PIC.

The girls and boys U12 sin-

gles drew seven players apiece and matches will be played next week to give way to the mini tennis division, which attracted 10 participants and will have its games at AMP.

The boys U10 singles has the second most entries in the juniors event with 16 and all eight prelim-

inary matches are also scattered in three venues. Nine will battle for the girls U10 singles and only one game is set for this weekend with Hana Nelson taking on Anna Calvert on Sunday at Fiesta.

The men's and women's singles and men's 40-and-above singles will also be played this weekend. The men's singles has eight entries led by CNMI coach Jeff Race. The women's singles also drew eight players, including Micronesian Games veteran Lydia Tan, while the men's 40-andabove singles lured six entries.

The much-anticipated mixed up doubles will also kick off this weekend with 58 pairs vying for the championship. The mixed up doubles event feature young players teaming up with older ones or beginners joining forces with advanced netters

Except for the U10 division, all singles matches will follow the pro set scoring (race to 8). All doubles matches are two sets with a super-tiebreak to be played (10 points.) in the event of split sets.

Deleon Guerrero takes SGA January Ace

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER



Tony Deleon Guerrero clinched the first Saipan Golfers Associ-

ation Ace after ruling the January tournament held two weeks ago at Coral Ocean Point.

The 17-handicapper Deleon Guerrero beat 22 other SGA members to win the January Ace title with the best net score of 67. He had a good start at the

Agingan Point course, firing a gross 39 in the front nine then closed out with a 45 for a gross 84 and three strokes win over Art Deleon Guerrero.

The 27-handicap Art Deleon Guerrero shot a net 70 after carding a 45 and 52 on the front and back nines, respectively. Completing the Top 3 was Jim Mitchell, who tallied a net 72. Mitchell sported a 20 handicap and recorded a 49 and 43 on the front and back nines, respectively, for a gross 92.

Meanwhile, Ed Manibusan

and Nick Sablan made the longest drive on the par-4 No. 6 and par 5-No. 8 holes during the January Ace tournament. Sablan also scored the most birdies in the weekend event with three (holes No. 1, 10, and 13), while new member Manny Blas hit two (holes No. 4 and 18). Jess Castro, Art and Tony Deleon Guerrero, and Ray San Nicolas had one each.

In the greenies category for four par-3 holes, Joe Demapan won on hole No. 3, Manibusan on No. 12, Ed Sablan on No. 7,

and Rick Kautz on No. 14.

The following were other SGA members who joined the January Ace event: Ray Salas (net 73), Danny Quitugua (72), Jun Eun Teack (73), Dan Krishnan (73), Manny Blas (73.5), Jose Sablan (74), Jess Castro (75), Ray San Nicolas (75), Vicente Aldan, Mariano Fajardo (76), Nick Sablan (77), Steve Balakrishna (80), Joe Demapan (80), Kautz (80), Larry Hocog (81), Manibusan (81), Manny Sablan (81), Joe Deleon Guerrero (83), Norbert Sablan (83), and Edward Sablan (85).



Saipan Tribune Sports



Easy victories for Proa, Mobil

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mobil and NMC Proa cruised to

similar easy wins at the Gilbert

C. Ada Gymna- döcomo

sium, as the 2nd

Docomo Pacif-

ic/UBA Men's

League reached

season Wednesday night.

NMC Proa clobbered the

36 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2011 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Miekotrains in Land Down Under



Mieko Carey, seen here pedaling up to the Bird Island Lookout during the 2010 Hell of Marianas, is in Australia training under a coach of Olympians.

nis Tournament 2011 in Guam.

training under Col **EFFR.** Stewart, SAIPAN who is a

Level 3 coach in Australia and has coached many Olympians. I am training not only for the XTERRA Saipan, but also for the rest of the races I will be competing in this year," said Carey in an email to Saipan Tribune.

and

Stewart is the same coach that trained XTERRA Saipan champion Olivier Marceau, who also won the 200 ITU World Championship. He is also the coach of world record holder Julie Barnett, Asian Games gold medalist Ryosuke Yamamoto, and Olympians Kiyomi Niwata and Miles Stewart

Carey's new mentor, replacing another Aussie-Andrew Noble—was the head coach of Australia's national elite team from 1997 to 2000 before becoming Triathlon Australia's coach director. Then from 2001 to 2003, Stewart was Triathlon Australia's national head coach and director of its national high performance team.

The 32-year-old triathlete added training under Stewart is rigorous. She said they train for six days a week, five hours a day and sometimes eight hours.

"We usually train two events a day. First bike and run, then run and swim, and bike and See MIEKO on Page 34

championship after she and teammate Tania Tan topped

The boys U10 singles also

went to a CNMI bet with

James Kim ruling his age

group. Daniel Lim gave the

visiting team its fourth crown

after dominating the boys U12

the girls U10 doubles.

A couple of weeks after his

Roque Martinez in PXC 22 ended in a draw, Kelvin "The Big Hit" Fitial will be going overseas to

Fitial will be trav-Ratchathani,

land for a month of Muay Thai kickboxing training at the Legacy Gym. Fitial holds a Mixed Martial Arts record of 11 wins, six losses, two draws, and one no contest.

Fitial will be studying Muay Thai under former world and games and tie IP&E Konflikt in second place. The Mobil-IT&E Fundamentalists tiff was played

Ol'Aces to improve to a perfect

5-0 record, while Mobil downed the IT&E Fundamentalists, 65-

52, to gain its fourth win in five

the halfway mark of the regular in the first game and for a change, Mobil did not have See EASY on Page 34

NMC Proa's Gino Libuw goes for a layup during their against Satbahi in the UBA/ Docomo caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Proa won, 77-53, and then beat the Ol'Aces on Wednesday, 74-57, to raise its record to 5-0. ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Fitial to train in Thailand

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com

heavyweight title bout against Fighting Championship 3.

hone is mixed martial arts skills.

eling to rural Ubon ThaiEuropean champion, Ole "Iron Fist" Larson, who he became acquainted with during his bout in Hong Kong for Legend's

This will be the first time Fitial will undergo off-island training since 2007 when he traveled to Guam for grappling and submission studies.

Fitial plans to fight again in April,

but has not decided whether he will return to Guam for the much-anticipated rematch with Martinez or travel to Tokyo to participate in an MMA charity affair in the Shinjuku Face event hall.

See FITIAL on Page 34



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com



CNMI junior tennis players took home five championships after competing in the FOCUS Junior Tennis Tournament 2011 held at the Hilton Guam Resort and Spa tennis court early this month.

Handing one of the five championship trophies to the Commonwealth was Mimi Sakano, who prevailed in the girls U10 singles against fellow CNMI netter Tania Tan, 6-4.



Mimi Sakano, left, and Tania Tan pose for a photo after winning the girls U10 doubles event in the FOCUS Junior Ten-

The visitors missed sweeping the boys U12 competition when Kennedy Izuka and Lim finished only second in the

doubles event.

singles division.

Greg Kim and Joon Lee See CNMI on Page 34